

## THE TIMES

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### National first

Ann Ferris became the first woman to ride the winner of the 1984 Grand National at Fairyhouse yesterday. Her sister, Rosemary Stewart, rode the third. **Page 24**

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## 'Hardliners insist on waiting for direct orders from Gaddafi'

# Libya staff in doubt over when to leave Britain

● Hardliners and moderates within the Libyan People's Bureau are reported to be in dispute over the timing of their departure

● Support for the IRA might be extended to allow it to open offices in Libya, the newspaper of the Libyan Revolutionary Committee has said

● Salah Mabruk, a Libyan student arrested at the weekend, was deported yesterday on the orders of Mr Leon Brittan, the Home Secretary

● Trade will almost certainly suffer as a result of the break in diplomatic ties, but Libya could be the greater loser. **Page 2**

By Henry Stanhope, Diplomatic Correspondent

A fierce dispute has been reported from within the Libyan People's Bureau between hardliners who want to remain until direct orders from Colonel Gaddafi, the Libyan leader, and moderates who insist that a telex message from the foreign liaison bureau in Tripoli on Sunday, gave them authority to leave the besieged building.

Diplomats and students at the bureau in St James's Square have told journalists they will stay until Sunday afternoon, just before the midnight deadline for their expulsion.

Detailed discussions over their departure have begun between the Foreign Office and Mr Muftah Fitouri, acting charge d'affaires in London. Mr Fitouri spent some time at the Foreign Office yesterday and is expected to become a regular visitor over the next few days.

According to the one Arabic-speaking source with contacts inside the bureau, some would like to come out today. But the Libyans must also have a lot of work to do if they are to ensure that the police find little of interest when they enter the building on Monday.

Some Libyans could be taken straight to an airport since it is believed that they live on the premises, but others are thought to have homes in London and families who would leave with them.

With no sign of imminent

evacuation last night, Scotland Yard said that workers will be allowed into some areas of the square today. The roads into the square will remain closed.

Sir Kenneth Newman, the Metropolitan Police Commissioner, and Assistant Commissioner John Dellow, who was in charge of the Iranian embassy siege four years ago, and is now head of London's CID, visited the square yesterday.

Food and two shirts were carried into the bureau, paid for by the two Libyan staff who have acted as intermediaries throughout the past week.

Libyan sources in London suggest that Colonel Gaddafi will now try to distance himself from the crisis, allowing his foreign ministry to conduct the negotiations.

Mr Oliver Miles, the British ambassador in Tripoli, saw Dr Ali Treiki, the Libyan foreign minister, yesterday to discuss the withdrawal of staff from the British Embassy after the British Government's decision on Sunday to break off diplomatic relations.

The Foreign Office said last night that no decision had been made on Mr Miles's return. But that too is unlikely to take place until almost the eleventh hour because staff will need as much time as possible to clear their desks and pack.

Those virtually imprisoned within the bureau in St James's Square since Women Police

Constable Yvonne Fletcher was shot dead outside a week ago today have asked police for permission to visit banks and West End stores before returning to Libya.

But it is highly unlikely that the police, who are maintaining their armed vigil in the square, will agree.

Both governments have to decide on "protecting powers" to look after the interests of nationals in each other's country.

Britain has asked Italy because of its historic connections with Libya. But the Foreign Office would not comment last night because agreement has still to come from Tripoli.

There was no indication about which country would be the protecting power for Libya. The effect of breaking diplomatic relations is to sever the official channel of communication between two governments.

But Whitehall sources pointed out that business need not be hampered and there were no reasons to suppose that the 3,000-9,000 Britons working in Libya would be harmed.

Britain's EEC membership also means that the Government is able to have some contact through community partners.

Diplomatic immunity, page 2  
Embassy architecture, page 12

## Aid to IRA threat by Tripoli

From Tana de Zulueta, Tripoli

Libya gave warning yesterday that it might extend its support for the IRA. A front-page article in *Green March*, organ of the Libyan Revolutionary Committee, said the IRA may be allowed to open offices there.

"The revolutionary forces will cooperate with the IRA for the liberation of Ireland... If the British Government acts against the Libyans in Britain then the Libyan revolutionary forces will help the IRA do the same in Britain", the article said.

"If Great Britain does not surrender the criminals it is harbouring, and who are wanted by Interpol, the revolutionary forces of the Jamahiriyah will not abide by international law and will take revolutionary action."

A back-page cartoon depicted Mrs Margaret Thatcher in black fishnet tights pointing a pistol at a tiny building marked "Office of the People's Bureau of the Jamahiriyah".

● **BELFAST:** Leaders of the Provisional IRA would undoubtedly welcome assistance from Colonel Gaddafi, particularly if it had more substance than mere rhetoric (Richard Foran writes).

The Libyan leader first achieved notoriety in Britain for his well-publicized sympathy for the IRA during the early 1970's, though the relationship later cooled.

● **LONDON:** Whitehall reacted coolly to the suggestion of Libyan backing for the IRA. A Foreign Office official pointed out that similar threats had been made many times before (Henry Stanhope writes).

## Labour holds fire until crisis ends

By Julian Haviland, Political Editor

The reluctance of the Libyans to comply with the Government's order for their expulsion will be a help to Mr Leon Brittan, the Home Secretary, when he faces the Commons tomorrow to report on the events.

The Opposition will refrain from any critical questions so long as matters in London remain unresolved and until British diplomats have returned safely from Tripoli. Although Mr Neil Kinnock and his frontbench colleagues have had no collective discussion yet, there was clearly agreement yesterday that nothing should be said to allow Colonel Gaddafi to suppose that he has any supporters at Westminster.

But there are sure to be requests for Mr Brittan, and perhaps also Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Foreign Secretary, to return to the House next week for a fuller examination.

Labour will want to know the truth of reports that the Government had advanced warning that nothing could be said to allow Colonel Gaddafi to suppose that he has any supporters at Westminster.

They are inclined to believe that the Government was gravely at fault in allowing the irregular staff at the bureau to have diplomatic status, and was slow to act on evidence that criminal activities were being directed from the bureau.

They will also seek in time an explanation from Mr Brittan of what one senior Labour figure described as appallingly lax security at Heathrow, which allowed abandoned luggage to be held in an area where flights from Libya were received and where passengers were at risk.

Few MPs quarrelled yesterday with the Government's decision to sever diplomatic relations with Libya, even at the unwelcome price of giving the killer of WPC Yvonne Fletcher safe conduct.

However, Mr Eddon Griffiths, Conservative MP for Bury St Edmunds, who speaks for the Police Federation in the Commons wanted to know whether it was Mr Brittan's decision, or the professional opinion of the police, that nothing could be said to allow Colonel Gaddafi to suppose that he has any supporters at Westminster.

But a spokesman refused to give details of his arrest or the reasons behind his expulsion which is similar to that of other Libyans after recent bombings in Britain.

He was said to have arrived in Britain in 1982 to study English.

Scotland Yard said he was arrested on Saturday and left yesterday afternoon at 3.30 on a flight to Tripoli.

But a spokesman refused to give details of his arrest or the reasons behind his expulsion which is similar to that of other Libyans after recent bombings in Britain.

done during a similar phase of the Vietnam war.

Mr Rabbani, whose Jamiat Islami forces are active in most parts of northern and western



Packing up: Lucy and Hugh Miles, youngest children of Mr Oliver Miles, the British ambassador to Libya, preparing yesterday to leave their residence in Tripoli.

## NUM fears revolt over strike

By David Felton, Labour Correspondent

An early indication of whether miners will heed the National Union of Mineworkers' call to join the strike now in its seventh week is likely to come today when seven pits in Nottinghamshire are due to re-open after the holiday period.

The call by the NUM delegate conference for a national stoppage was backed by Nottinghamshire NUM leaders who asked that the area's 34,000 miners should join the 140,000 strikers in other areas. But there were doubts last night about the likely response of the Nottinghamshire men.

NUM leaders from Nottinghamshire, who made the strike call on Good Friday after the national conference decision on Thursday, are themselves pessimistic about the likely response.

Miners' pickets' attention is also likely to be directed to the ports where foreign coal is still being imported. Yesterday dockers announced that they would not handle coal that was due to be landed at British Steel's Hunterston dock in Strathclyde and was destined for the Ravenscraig steelworks.

The Librarian-registered Hastings carrying the coal turned away from the port, but the dockers may agree to unload a British vessel, the Farland, which is due to land a consignment of coking coal for Ravenscraig later this week.

The propaganda battle between the NUM and the National Coal Board is likely to intensify this week when the board starts a series of newspaper advertisements explaining its pit closure strategy.

Mr Kevin Barron, Labour MP for Rother Valley, is to protest in Parliament about the "disgraceful" conditions in which he claims four miners are being held at Lincoln Prison. The men, from the Sheffield area, were remanded in custody for a week by a Mansfield magistrate at a special court on Friday following incidents near the M1.

Leading article, page 13

## Outlook sunny after warm Easter

By Hugh Clayton

The weather forecast for the rest of the week was for continuing bright sunshine after one of the warmest Easters which brought with it many of the traditional ingredients of a British holiday weekend.

Roads were clogged with traffic on many main holiday routes: there were gang fights at seaside resorts and forest fires inland. A policeman died in a road accident as he was helping to escort motorcyclists near a crowded racing circuit in the Midlands.

It was so hot at Nottingham races that a horse went swimming. Fleur-de-Chrisse jumped into the Trent and swam across to the opposite bank after escaping from her stable lad. She was rescued by the Nottingham Sailing Club.

A man and his son, aged six, survived being flung from a fairground ride at New Brighton, Merseyside. The Health and Safety Executive

will investigate. Some prisoners were removed from cells at a police station in Portsmouth because the hot weather encouraged a rapid spread of fleas.

By the time pest control officials had been recalled from their weekend breaks to fumigate the station yesterday one policeman had 27 bites. Mr Michael Montague, chairman of the English Tourist Board, said that the Easter weekend had brought a splendid start to the tourist season which might surpass that of the jubilee year of 1977.

Several tourist attractions had to be closed because of the pressure of visitors. Barry Island in South Wales was barred to traffic early in the afternoon and Thorpe Park near Chertsey, Surrey, was shut when its car parks were filled.

More than 800 cars an hour headed towards Portcawl, Continued on back page, col 2

## Observer's sale 'would upset union'

By David Felton, Labour Correspondent

Trade unions have not been drawn into discussions over the future of *The Observer*, and would be unhappy if there were a change of ownership. Mr William Keys, general secretary of Sogat '82, the biggest printing union, said last night.

"As someone who believes passionately in the freedom of expression in the press I would not be happy to see the paper pass into the hands of someone who may not be prepared to give the editorial safeguards that exist at the moment," Mr Keys said.

A meeting of the National Graphical Association's (NGA) national council this afternoon is likely to receive a report on negotiations between Mr Tiny Rowland, the newspaper's chairman and chief executive of Lonrho, and Robert Maxwell, the publishing millionaire.

Mr Maxwell said yesterday that he was prepared to "pay the right price" for the newspaper and a deal could be made today. One important condition that both unions will seek to agree with any buyer would be maintenance of existing agreements covering production staff at *The Observer*.

## Sale of nurses' homes urged

By Nicholas Timmins

The National Health Service could raise £750m by selling off nurses' homes, doctors' residences and other residential property that the NHS cannot justify owning, ministers have been told.

A further £55m could be saved by cutting back the £75m that health authorities plan to spend on accommodation in the next six years.

And if student nurses could not afford to pay rent, the answer was higher pay and not NHS accommodation.

The recommendations, in an unpublished report by a Rayner scrutiny team, present health ministers with a dilemma.

Ministers are frightened of the political impact of any decision on nurses accommodation and action on the report, delivered last October, is likely to be some weeks away.

Instructions to health authorities to dispose of much of the property are likely, however, although on a less radical scale than the report envisages, to avoid serious clashes with the British Medical Association and Royal College of Nursing.

The report says that the NHS probably owns residential accommodation worth more than £1.1 billion. It has a statutory duty to provide accommodation only for 3,000 pre-registration junior doctors, but houses about 11,000 junior doctors out of 21,000, and about 65,000 nurses out of 370,000.

Of about 112,000 units of accommodation, 70,000 are bedsitter or hostel-type blocks, and 20,000 are houses and flats.

The report recommends that the 112,000 units should be cut to about 39,000 - 8,000 places for junior doctors and 29,000 for first-year learner nurses (although even here, the report questions whether the NHS really needs to accommodate them), and perhaps 2,000 other places for short-term staff where there is no local authority or private rented accommodation.

The report is dismissive of most arguments for providing such accommodation, which costs the NHS about £65m a year and uses up valuable management time. Only about £41m is collected in rent and other charges which does not reflect the true cost of providing the accommodation. About 95,000 NHS staff are being subsidised to the tune of at least £5 a week.

At least £170m could be raised by selling off-site houses and flats, and possible £750m if full advantage were taken of the development potential of some properties, and all detached on-site properties were included.

The report says that NHS accommodation might seem attractive at first, but many staff later realized it had delayed their entry into the housing market and the chance to build up personal wealth.

*'It is an old maxim of mine that whenever you have excluded the impossible, whatever remains, however improbable, must be the truth.'*

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# Teachers' conference vote on flat-rate pay claim challenged by executive

The National Union of Teachers' annual conference in Blackpool adjourned in confusion last night after delegates voted to overturn the union's pay policy of 15 years and put in a claim next year for a flat rate increase.

The decision, however, may stand for only 12 hours, because executive members immediately called for a vote among the 1,800 delegates to cancel the decision. They said that it would mean the union reducing its pay claim by at least half next year.

The decision of that vote will not be known until this morning, but even if it is cancelled delegates could still push through a commitment to put in a flat rate claim.

The heated debate was precipitated by an amendment to an executive motion from Bradford delegates for a flat rate increase which would restore the purchasing power of teachers' pay to 1974 levels.

The executive, surprised by the amendment being convincingly backed by delegates, many of them badly off young teachers, immediately drew attention to the second half of the amendment.

The union has long campaigned for pay on the basis of comparability at the same level as the Houghton Commission awarded in 1974, which this year enabled a claim of 31 per cent to be made.

Mr Douglas McAvoy said that a claim based on purchasing power this year would have been 14.5 per cent.

The amendment calling for a

From Colin Hughes, Blackpool

flat rate increase was passed after rousing speeches from mainly young delegates. Miss Felicity Dowling, of Liverpool, called the vote a "major step forward for the union". She kept a family on take home pay of little over £100 a week, and called the executive attempt to cancel the flat rate amendment a cynical trick.

After the conference session, Mr McAvoy accepted that the flat rate had won a clear majority in the conference, but he was not convinced that most members would support it.

It showed the anger of young teachers at their pay levels, he said, but he insisted that yesterday's policy change would mean teachers abandoning their most important gauge in assessing the salaries they deserved.

If the union does decide today to put in a flat rate claim next year executive members fear that it would divide them from other teaching unions. Although such a claim would improve the earnings of low paid teachers, it would not have the support of unions which represent higher paid teachers.

Nearly 70% of members are on the two lowest pay scales, and the union has a majority on the teachers' panel in pay talks.

In his address to the conference, Mr Fred Jarvis, the union's general secretary, said that education would be the service worst affected by rate capping and he urged teachers to join the fight to prevent the proposed legislation.

"The teaching profession and the education of this country stand in greater danger now

than at any time in post war history", Mr Jarvis said.

He took pride in teachers having so far avoided compulsory redundancies through education spending cuts, but said that rate capping posed a new and more serious threat.

The union believes that up to 22,000 jobs could be lost by rate capping, under which limits could be set on local authority expenditure. With 62 per cent of local council spending being on education, around £9,500m, education was most at risk, he said.

Mr Jarvis said that the campaign against rate capping would succeed, not by calling industrial action or all-out strikes to bring down the Government, but by appealing to reason and seeking to change attitudes.

"There must be no under-estimating by teachers, or by the public at large, of just how big a threat to education the Government's proposals are, or how fundamentally they will change the relationship between central and local government", he said.

The Government had already made some concessions on rate capping, and the recent government climbdown on abolition of the Inner London Education Authority showed that "even this Government" could be persuaded to change under sufficient pressure of public opinion, he said.

Mr Jarvis also attacked the "apparent total impotence" of Sir Keith Joseph, the Secretary of State for Education in failing to stand up for education.

Disruptive pupils, page 3

## Welsh steel cuts 'a resignation issue'

By Ian Griffiths

Mr Alan Williams, a Labour spokesman on trade and industry, has urged Mr Nicholas Edwards, the Secretary of State for Wales to make the question of potential closures of Welsh steelworks a resignation issue.

British Steel is to submit a new corporate strategy to the Government within the next fortnight. It is likely to recommend the closure of one or two integrated plants with the loss of 15,000 jobs. The works at Ravenscraig in Scotland and Llanwern in South Wales are most at risk.

Mr Williams said: "The impact in Scotland and in Wales will be massive when seen in conjunction with the problems of pit closures. We would expect the Secretary of State for Wales to make the closure of any Welsh plants a resignation issue."

Mr George Younger, the Secretary of State for Scotland, has applied pressure in the past to keep Ravenscraig open. Although the Scottish Office would make no official response to the possible closure, the loss of 4,000 jobs would be viewed with apprehension. The miners' strike has added to Ravenscraig's problems and if it lost customers through its failure to meet production requirements, its economic viability would need to be reconsidered.

Mr Edwards has refused to

commit himself to resign if Welsh steelworks are closed, but he has been impressed in the past with the productivity and output at Llanwern and at Port Talbot.

Mr William Sims, leader of the largest steel union, is to ask for clarification of British Steel's strategy which is still to be approved by the board.

Mr Sims, general secretary of the Iron and Steel Trades Confederation which has about 80,000 members in British Steel, said: "If this report is true, it would be the most disastrous development for the industry. At the moment we can provide only 50 per cent of the country's requirements for strip steel."

Before the miners' strike, most of the producing plants had operated in the black and would have made profits had it not been for central interest charges, he said.

Mr Williams blamed the need for the new plan on pressure from Europe. He said: "The people in Brussels will have had a major role in pressing the Government to make cutbacks in steel capacity."

"We have taken far more reductions than other European countries and it leaves the steel industry in grave doubt. If further cuts are made we will not have the people to meet our domestic needs."

## Company urges strikers to defy union

From Our Correspondent

Peterborough  
The Perkins diesel engine company has made an appeal to its 3,500 workers urging them to defy their union and end the strike which has halted production at its plant at Peterborough, Cambridgeshire, for the past 10 days.

A letter posted over the Easter weekend asked workers to vote at a mass meeting this morning in favour of the company's latest and final pay offer of an extra 5.25 per cent which would increase weekly pay packets by an average of £6.08. The Amalgamated Union of Engineering Workers (AUEW) is demanding 5.5 per cent.

Shop stewards are advising the workforce to reject the offer and continue the strike but a management statement said: "We hope that all the workers affected by the dispute will turn up at the meeting, that commonsense will prevail

## Link urged with Europe unions to press for jobs

British trade unionists should seek help from European colleagues to put pressure on the Government, Mr David Bassett, chairman of the TUC economic committee, said yesterday.

They should be pressing nationally and internationally for coordinated action to create jobs through building roads and homes, repairing sewers and electrifying railways.

Mr Bassett, general secretary of the General Municipal, Boilermakers and Allied Trades Union, said in the union's journal: "Whatever reservations we may have, the effect is that an EEC or an OECD summit these days has a major influence on the way our economy behaves."

"Some of the most effective pressures on this Government, in fact, come from other governments. We, therefore, need to make our voice heard at these international summits

## 20 charged over fake £50 notes

By Mark Roselli

A total of 20 people were charged with either passing or possessing forged £50 notes over the Bank holiday period, in what the police believe is the work of a highly-organized counterfeit gang.

It is feared that millions of pounds of forged currency have been manufactured. By choosing the Easter holiday to distribute the notes, the forgers take advantage of the closure of banks to avoid detection.

The forgers are said to be very good photocopyists of genuine banknotes but can be detected because they have no metal strip running through them and have poor or non-existent watermarks.

So far, notes have been found as far afield as South Shields, Blackpool and Brighton, although the police suspect that the notes may all originate from east London.

The largest number of arrests was made at Southend, Essex, where nine people were charged.

Det Inspector Colin Edkins of Southend police said yesterday: "We are dealing with professional criminals. A lot of thought has gone into the operation. We believe the notes emanated from the East End of London, and that Southend was chosen as the nearest seaside resort to London. The criminals believed this would be an easy place to pass them."

"They picked a bank holiday weekend quite deliberately because they felt that word wouldn't get around so quickly."

The police, who have so far recovered fakes with a face value of more than £100,000, fear that many more will be found in night safes when banks reopen to day. They are appealing to the public, and shopkeepers in particular, to check all £50 banknotes.

Other people were charged by magistrates in London, Blackpool, York and South Shields.

A man appeared before Blackpool magistrates yesterday, charged with possessing forged £50 notes with a face value of £47,000. Mr Daniel Michael Staunton, aged 23, of St Johns Road, Tottenham, east London, was also charged with tendering a counterfeit £50 note (the Press Association reports).

Mr Francis Martin Brown, aged 43, of Marlow House, Melton Grove, Stoke Newington, east London, also appeared at the Blackpool court charged with using a forged £50 note and tendering a counterfeit. Both men were remanded in custody until Thursday.



Curtain up: Police involved in the St James's Square siege drawing back the security screen across Charles II Street (Photograph: Jonathan Player).

## The Libyan bureau crisis

### Untouchable diplomatic 'bags'

By Patricia Clough

If a ten-ton truck marked Libyan People's Bureau and carrying its official seals drives out of St James's Square this week with the machine gun that killed Womans Police Constable Yvonne Fletcher among its load, there is nothing Britain could do.

For the vehicle would classify as a diplomatic bag and Mr Leon Brittan, the Home Secretary, has said that diplomatic bags leaving the bureau will not be searched.

Under the 1961 Vienna convention on diplomatic relations, a diplomatic bag is anything identified as such by visible external markings, an envelope or a railway carriage.

Britain uses bags, white canvas ones sewn by prisoners and closed with cord and metal seals. They are different sizes and are carried by Queen's messengers. But very often diplomatic bags are packages, crates or other containers.

They may not be opened or detained and convention stipulates they may contain only diplomatic documents and "articles intended for official use". But for decades they have

served throughout the world as a cover for drugs, guns, missiles, ammunition, art works, antiques and, in at least one case, a man.

They have been used to take alcohol to "dry" countries, contraceptives to the Irish Republic, a naval officer's collars from Moscow to London for stashing and espionage equipment almost everywhere.

Some Arab states have made their diplomatic bags and diplomatic passports available to Arab terrorists.

A Palestinian guerrilla who took part in the kidnapping of OPEC officials in Vienna in 1976 told the West German magazine *Der Spiegel* that their weapons were smuggled in the diplomatic bag of an Arab ambassador.

Pakistan authorities found 300 submachine guns, 60,000 rounds of ammunition, a radio receiver, transmitter and general training equipment in the office of an Iraqi consular affairs attaché and said it had all been shipped in as diplomatic baggage.

The cases that come to light — clearly the tip of an iceberg — are often the result of chance. Customs officers noticed that

the bags carried by Signor Manlio Blais, a courier for the Italian embassy in Paris, were too heavy to lift. They contained 2,000 watches.

Two years ago a Moroccan diplomatic crate fell off a forklift truck at Harwich revealing third of a ton of cammies. Several years earlier muffled thumping from inside an Egyptian diplomatic truck revealed Moroccan Ben Massoud Louk, an Israeli on his way, bound, gagged and drugged, to Cairo.

The truck, lined with leather and fitted with a chair and clamps for ankles and heads, was well worn. How many others had been transported the same way is not known.

Often carriers have diplomatic immunity, but the United States has jailed several Latin American ambassadors for smuggling drugs.

The Foreign Office says that Britain sticks to the rules with its bags and does not X-ray other countries' ones. But every state wants to know what incoming bags contain and the disappearance of Polish, Chinese and Cuban bags en route to London indicates Britain also plays this shadowy game.

## Cool envoy likely to get warm welcome

By Henry Stanhope

Diplomatic Correspondent  
One man who has emerged from the Anglo-Libyan crisis with an enhanced reputation is Mr Oliver Miles, British ambassador in Tripoli who is packing his bags after only four months in the job.

He has been congratulated by Mr Richard Luce, Minister of State at the Foreign Office, for his handling of the affair and is likely to have sympathetic welcome on his return.

Mr Miles, whose voice, together with that of his wife Julia, has become familiar to radio listeners in Britain during the past week, was born in London 48 years ago and educated at Ampleforth and Merton College, Oxford, where he gained a first in oriental languages (Arabic and Turkish). He was a sub-lieutenant in the Royal Navy during National Service.

He began his diplomatic career by attending the advanced Arabic course at the Middle East Centre for Arab Studies in Lebanon in 1960, and moved to Bahrain the next year to do a "floating" assignment in the Gulf area.

He has spent his career either based at the Foreign Office or as a diplomat in the Arab world and Eastern Mediterranean. He is no stranger to trouble spots,



Mr Miles: No stranger to trouble spots.

having served in Aden in 1967, but has also been posted to Jordan, Cyprus, Saudi Arabia and Athens.

He married his wife, a professor's daughter, in 1968 when she was 23, and they have three sons and a daughter.

Friends and colleagues describe him as a cool, "unflappable" and unostentatious diplomat, liked by journalists and well respected — qualities which do not always go together. One diplomat said: "He was the right man in the right place at the right time. It is just a pity for him that the time had to be so short."

## Embassy staff pack up

From Tana de Zulueta

Tripoli

Mr Oliver Miles, Britain's Ambassador in Libya, and his wife Julia, were busy yesterday with packers in their large two-storey residence on the Tripoli seaford, a few blocks from the embassy. Mrs Miles is advertising to sell the climbing frame, trampoline, and other large items she and her family will not be taking back to Britain.

The family aims to leave on Thursday, "if we find bookings", Mrs Miles said. They are leaving then because their two eldest children were planning to travel back that day to school.

It is still not clear, according to Mr Miles, whether the 40 British Embassy staff and their families will be leaving gradually on scheduled flights over the week, or whether a special British Caledonian flight will be laid on for them, perhaps on Thursday.

Packing is also under way at the British Embassy. Staff have been engaged for the past few days shredding or burning the embassy archives.

He said that he did not know whether the other 8,000 members of the British community in Libya would be staying. He says that he has advised them to make their own decision. "They know the score. But I do not think many will leave."

The impression is shared by Mr T. A. Kowalski, the manager in Tripoli of the consultant engineering firm of Rendel, Palmer and Tritton. He said that his company was one of the longest established in Libya.

Mr Kowalski, who has been here for three years is determined, at least for the time being, to stay on with his wife and two children. Of his immediate acquaintances he "knows no one who wants to leave right now."

Mr Kowalski said that the employees of his company were all asked what they wished to do after being told that the embassy was being closed. Only one employee's wife, with a small child, decided to take premature home leave immediately.

There are two British schools in Libya, one at Benghazi and another at Tripoli, with 130 pupils. It is still not clear whether the schools will open again after the Easter holidays.

## Retaliation against Britain could hit Tripoli harder

By Frances Williams

Economics Correspondent

Britain's trade with Libya is almost certain to suffer now that diplomatic ties have been broken off, officials at the Department of Trade and Industry believe. But oil-dependent Libya could be the loser.

Exports to Libya from Britain last year totalled £274m, including machinery, vehicles, communications equipment, consumer goods and medical supplies. More than 80 companies have offices there.

Companies which have won big Libyan contracts recently include BL, British Telecom and the Derby-based NEI International Combustion, which makes industrial boilers.

Marconi, Plessey and two smaller companies, Seismic Graphic Services and KCA Drilling, are thought to have the biggest British-owned operations in Libya.

But Libya ranks as Britain's thirty-fourth biggest trading partner and business has contracted sharply in the past two years. In 1981 Britain exported more than £500m of goods to Libya, but world recession, which affected demand for oil, and falling oil prices forced the country to cut back on its ambitious development plans.

For the companies supplying consultancy services, mostly management expertise, the consequences of retaliation could be more serious. Those firms may be earning more than £100m a year for Britain. More importantly, they employ most of the British nationals working in Libya, who find themselves in a difficult position.

The Libyan market, an observer said yesterday, is a political one and some retaliation against British companies would seem inevitable. But Libya too has much to lose.

Most immediately, the clampdown on the issue of visas to Libyan wanting to come to Britain could disrupt Libya's international financial dealings, such as buying and selling foreign currencies, the bulk of which is thought to be transacted in London by Libyan nationals. It may be forced to

UK TRADE WITH LIBYA, £m 1983

Imports	Exports
Total 224	Total 274
Of which:	Of which:
Oil 212	Pharmaceuticals 19.5
	Other chemicals 30.5
	Vehicles 21
	Other machinery 113
	Other manufactures 73

Source: Department of Trade and Industry.

take its business to less convenient locations elsewhere or deal through intermediaries.

Libya also has to import virtually all its machinery and other capital equipment as well as a large proportion of consumer and other goods, and Britain is its third largest supplier. Italy ranks first, followed by West Germany. British imports could prove hard to replace, especially in the short run.

By contrast, Britain would scarcely notice any Libyan move to cut off oil exports worth £212m last year. Oil companies operating in Britain find it convenient and profitable to import some Libyan oil to balance refinery needs but could easily replace supplies from elsewhere. Most Libyan oil is bought on the spot market and not on contract.

Exports to Britain represent only a small proportion of Libyan oil shipments. But 99 per cent of Libya's export earnings come from oil which, in a well-stocked world oil market, makes the country highly vulnerable to any wider boycott, which would follow threats of large-scale retaliation against Britain. Italy, West Germany and France, all EEC partners, are its biggest customers.

Falling oil earnings have pushed Libya into deficit on its balance of payments current account in the past two years, and it has borrowed abroad to help plug the gap. It could not easily tolerate any further worsening of its trade position.

Libya would also find it hard to cope without foreign management expertise and advice, especially in the oil and construction sectors, most of which comes from Europe, the United States and South Korea.

## Unionists appeal to preserve SDLP

From Richard Ford

Belfast

Unionist politicians in Northern Ireland are increasingly divided over how to respond to the report from the Dublin-based New Ireland Forum due next week.

The work of constitutional nationalism will inevitably provide "loyalist" politicians with a rallying cry during the European election campaign, but behind the rhetoric there is doubt and anxiety about the future.

The growing awareness that the Social Democratic and Labour Party might be replaced by Provisional Sinn Féin, political wing of the Provisional IRA, as the majority voice of nationalism is concentrating minds within the rival Official and Democratic Unionist parties.

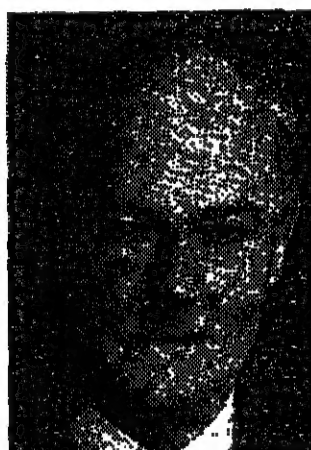
Unionist confidence has recently been shaken by events in the courts, where a retired civil servant has been accused of murdering a prison official, and several graduates and students of Queen's University, Belfast have been charged in connection with terrorist crimes.

Mr James Moynihan, leader of the Official Unionist Party, has backed an appeal from his party's general secretary for Unionists not to compound needlessly the problems facing the SDLP.

In a speech at Newcastle, Co. Down, Mr Frank Millar gave a warning that the demise of constitutional nationalism "would surely signal the beginning of the ultimate nightmare for all the people of Northern Ireland."

In a clear reference to the report of the New Ireland Forum, Mr Millar appealed to Unionists to "refrain from rhetoric of the kind which easily inflames fear and suspicions in our community."

Without naming the Rev Ian Paisley, Mr Millar said that the European election would make some see signs of sell-out and betrayal. They would do this for their own purposes, and Unionists "should think long and hard before we allow ourselves to be



Mr Moynihan: Backing general secretary.

led up that particular mountain."

He said that people must never drop their guard, but should beware of those who would mislead them, and resist temptation to see in every political diplomatic exchange some dark design.

Mr Millar's moderate speech, with its implied attack on the rhetoric of Mr Paisley's brash Democratic Unionist Party, reflected the Unionists' dilemma.

They know it has aroused interest in Whitehall and among all political parties at Westminster, and recognizes that outright rejection will increase hostility towards Unionism and allow opponents to portray it as intransigent.

Mr Millar said that Unionists should be "reasonable and generous" after the report and urged them to bring forward proposals for government in Northern Ireland which would afford opportunities for involvement of political parties across the religious divide.

His party favours administrative devolution developing slowly from the all-party co-operation at local government level in Northern Ireland.

Mr Moynihan said that there was a slim chance that the SDLP might be interested in an internal solution and Unionists should not "bolt the door against the SDLP."

## Labour accused over selection inquiry

The Co-operative Party

conference yesterday approved an emergency resolution, expressing concern at the Labour Party national executive committee's refusal to hold an inquiry into the selection of a European

candidate.

Mr Brian Key, the Co-operative sponsored MEP for South Yorkshire and a pro-marketeer, was defeated at his reselection conference earlier this month by Mr Norman West, an anti-marketeer, who was proposed by the National Union of Mineworkers.

The union was accused of packing the reselection conference, but the Labour Party national executive decided against holding an inquiry.

Mr David Wise, the Co-

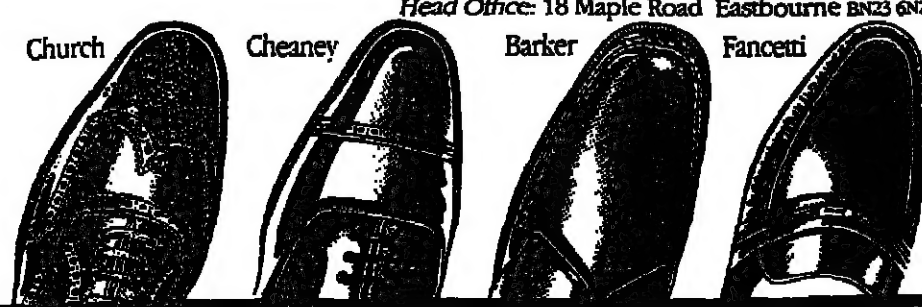
operative Party secretary, said the decision seemed to indicate that there were those in the Labour Party "who are not merely lukewarm towards the Co-op, but who show a disregard for co-operators based on the view that we don't count, or perhaps that we are so loyal that we can be pushed around, or even that the ideas and ideals represented by co-operation are irrelevant and hostile to their brand of socialism."

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Austrian Schilling 13.76 to £100  
Danish Krone 6.46 to £100  
Dutch Guilder 3.60 to £100  
French Franc 6.55 to £100  
German Mark 3.36 to £100  
Italian Lira 2036 to £100  
Japanese Yen 160 to £100  
New Zealand Dollar 2.07 to £100  
Norwegian Krone 4.76 to £100  
Portuguese Escudo 200 to £100  
Spanish Peseta 166.64 to £100  
Swedish Krona 4.66 to £100  
Swiss Franc 2.00 to £100  
US Dollar 1.93 to £100  
Yugoslav Dinar 13.63 to £100

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## Dispute over violence causes new split in animal rights lobby

By Hugh Clayton

A dispute about the use of violence instead of political campaigning has caused another split in the animal rights movement. The new argument between the Animal Liberation Front and the British Union for the Abolition of Vivisection is one of a series that have fragmented the movement since Labour lost last year's general election.

Two leading officials of the Hunt Saboteurs' Association resigned last year because the association decided to disrupt fishing and considered such tactics as pushing anglers into rivers. Leaders of the Campaign for Country Sports met Mr Leon Brittan, the Home Secretary, before Easter to complain about the increasing level of "insults and assaults" by hunt saboteurs. The campaign represents hunting, shooting and fishing organizations.

The new split has led to the expulsion from the union's London headquarters of Mr Ronnie Lee, press officer for the front and one of its few publicly identifiable officials. The front is divided into semi-autonomous cells which specialize in "liberating" animals from laboratories and filming the con-

ditions in which they are kept and used for experiments.

Mr Lee's expulsion came after he had written in the front's latest newsletter that the organization disdained violence for tactical reasons and not because "we love the scum who brutally exploit animals". That caused immediate conflict with the union which rejects all violence, including that towards scientists who work on animals and hounds which are bred to pursue and kill.

The political climate of animal rights has been changed sharply by the Labour defeat. Labour went into the 1983 general election with the first manifesto from a major party with a commitment to abolish hunting and coursing of live prey with hounds.

Mr Lee wrote in the newsletter that animal rights campaigners should abandon "fruitless" political campaigning. Mr Lee allowed himself to be identified in public to enable him to be available as the front's press spokesman and because he is too well known to the police to be of use as an anonymous activist.

Moderate campaigners for

better treatment of animals fear that the left-wing activism of young enthusiasts is being replaced by small but growing influence from the far right. That has already appeared in Bradford with extremist right-wing organizations encouraging animal rights campaigners to oppose Muslim method of slaughtering meat animals without first stunning them.

Mrs Margaret Manzoni, the union headquarters manager, explained the exclusion of Mr Lee to union members by saying that "bloodshed can only increase bloodshed and no one should play 'God' and decide who should live and who should die, who should be harmed and who not".

Mr Lee's remarks in the front's newsletter had left the union with "a great fear that if it should become tactically right they would be prepared to take such action".

Mr Lee replied in a written statement that violence should usually be avoided, but might sometimes be necessary to prevent a greater evil. He forecast "a state of virtual civil war within the animal rights movement in this country".

## Disruption in schools increasing

The number of disruptive pupils in Britain's schools is on the increase and too many parents are failing to play their part in overcoming the problem, Mr Peter Matthews, the new president of the National Association of Schoolmasters' Union of Women Teachers, said yesterday.

He told the union's annual conference in Llandudno, north Wales: "Fortunately, we can still say that the disruptive element in our schools is in the minority."

"What is worrying is that the minority is slowly increasing and, in whatever classroom or school, the disruptive pupils appear, it is the education of the majority that suffers."

Mr Matthews, headmaster of Chilton County Junior School in Ferryhill, co Durham, said that too many children knew that their parents were unable or unwilling to exercise any control over them.

He continued: "Not only do these parents do nothing themselves, they actively resent the school's attempts to impose discipline on their children. There can be no doubt that this country faces increasing problems of classroom and playground, indiscipline and juvenile crime."

A spirit of partnership between home and school would benefit everyone but too many parents were "opting out", he said.

Mr Matthews complained that Britain was still in the "dark ages" over nursery school provision compared with the other countries in Europe. "Every child should enjoy the right to nursery provision, whatever their home circumstances may be", he said.

In 1982, only 22 per cent of children aged three and four in Britain and no more than 40 per cent of those aged five were receiving nursery education, he said.

In comparison, 97 per cent of four-year-olds attend nursery schools in Belgium and France, 93 per cent in the Netherlands and 90 per cent in Luxembourg.

School milk may be part of an unhealthy diet, according to health officials in Herefordshire and Worcestershire. The county council is advising parents and teachers against EEC subsidized milk in schools.

Mrs Joan Richardson, the county council's health officer, says: "Many children take too much fat in their diet already and ordinary milk gives them extra fat. It would be better for them to be given skimmed milk."

## Draught beer set to rise 2p a pint

By Derek Harris, Commercial Editor

Leading brewers are preparing to put through price increases which would raise the price of draught beer mostly by 2p a pint. The increase is likely to be shared partly by the retailing end of the trade, such as public house tenants.

But decisions on when to introduce the new prices are unlikely to be made for a few weeks because an improvement in sales which had been showing through since the beginning of the year appears in some areas to have tailed off during March.

It is not yet clear how far the 2p a pint Budget increase, together with the cold spring, is a factor producing only a short-term effect.

It looks likely that the draught price increases will start during June and will run through the summer, about a year after the last increases by most brewers.

Canned beer prices have gone up by 2p to 3p on a 16oz can already. Cider prices earlier this month also rose by 3p to 5p a pint in addition to the 3p a pint Budget increase.

The price rise in packaged beer has had no discernible effect on sales but canned and bottled beer in supermarkets is generally the cheapest and the trend is for sales through those outlets to increase.

Beer production in January and February was up 6.4 per cent spread over the two

months, compared with the same period last year, but February's increase of 10.6 per cent almost certainly reflected a jump in anticipatory buying ahead of the Budget. As a result, brewers expect the March production figures to be well down on last year.

With beer production last year barely above the level of the year before and this year's sales trend still unclear, the brewers are increasingly competing in beer's biggest growth sector, lager. In 1983, it accounted for 36 per cent of the beer market, compared with 33 per cent the year before.

Two new lagers have been announced within the past week. One is a draught version of Castlemaise XXXX, Australia's biggest selling lager, to be brewed in Britain by Allied Lyons. It goes on sale at the beginning of June in Allied's regional companies in the Midlands and Yorkshire - Ansell's, Ind Coope, Halls and Joshua Tetley. Sales will be widened to the rest of the country later. Promotion, including television advertising, will be at a level equivalent to £6m on a national campaign and claimed to be a spending level second only to the market leader, Bass's Carling Black Label.

Charrington, part of Bass, is launching in the South-east a Tennent's Pilsner draught lager.

## Lower mortgage rates stimulate housing market

By Christopher Warman, Property Correspondent

The housing market is exceptionally busy. The Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors state in their survey for England and Wales for the quarter ending in March, published today.

Lower mortgage interest rates and reduced stamp duty have accentuated the buoyancy usually experienced at this time of year, they say.

In the survey of 300 agents, nearly half report price rises of 2 per cent during the three-month period, and a further quarter announce rises of 5 per cent or more.

Confirming other surveys in the past few weeks, the institution says that a number of agents in the south of England have noticed a lack of quality family homes on the market

## Christians end peace march at Lakenheath

From Pat Healy, Thetford

Three thousand members of Christian peace groups ended their Easter pilgrimage yesterday as it had begun: with a service outside an American military base.

The pilgrims, who visited 10 bases on their journey which began on Palm Sunday with a service outside Greenham Common, completed the final leg with a march in Suffolk from Mildenhall to Lakenheath.

On a hill above the base, which they were told was a "Nato conservancy area", scores of children played on huge inflatables while the service continued.

The crowd was blessed by the Rt Rev Tony Dumper, Bishop of Dudley, who said that a march, celebration and service was a good way for Christians to express their feelings about nuclear arms.

## £6m express investment

## High-speed rail for Gatwick

By Michael Baily, Transport Editor

Air travel through London's second airport will receive an important boost with the opening of a high-speed rail service from central London next month.

In place of the aging commuter stock which operates the 28-mile run between Gatwick airport and London Victoria, British Rail will introduce trains solely for the route with air-conditioned Inter-City stock of a much higher standard.

Journey time will be cut from 45 to 30 minutes, giving a through journey to London's West End by train and taxi or Underground of about 45 minutes: that is the same as from Heathrow by the Piccadilly Line, despite Heathrow's much closer proximity to central London.

The Gatwick Express will represent a £6m investment by British Rail and put Gatwick on a much more equal footing with Heathrow, so paving the way for further growth in its traffic from a present 13 million

passengers a year to up to 25 million after the opening of the big second terminal in 1987.

Already Gatwick traffic is growing faster than that at Heathrow (13 per cent a year against under 3 per cent), partly because it specializes in the fast growing charter holiday business, and partly because of new services to expanding destinations in the United States such as Atlanta, Houston, and Los Angeles. The Gatwick Express will reinforce that trend.

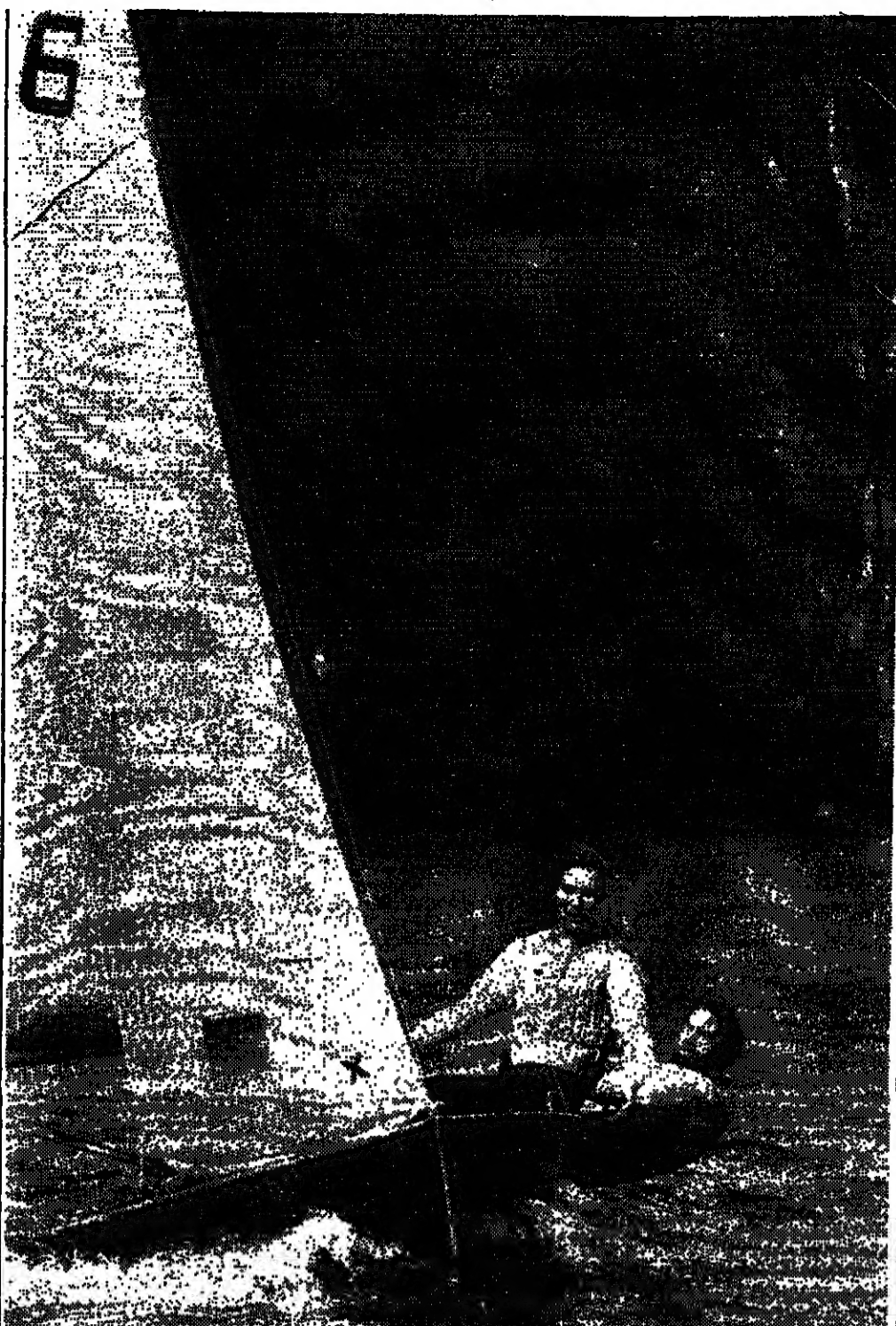
Heathrow retains its two greatest strengths, which are easy access to the whole of Greater London by car, and a huge range of flights to all parts of the world, but with the Gatwick Express there is much less to choose between them for public transport links. Heathrow has a four-minute service in the peak (eight-ten minutes off-peak) taking 47 minutes to Piccadilly Circus by stopping Underground train at £1.80 one way; Gatwick will have a 15-minute service by non-stop

train to Victoria (£5 one way) taking 30 minutes with onward connections by bus, Tube and taxi to other west end destinations.

The new service leaves London's third airport even more out on a limb however. Stansted's rail service is hourly and takes 38 minutes (£3.50 one way): the airport's station is four miles by taxi from the air terminal, and the London terminus is Liverpool Street in the City, requiring an onward journey by taxi, bus, or Tube for the West End.

Plans exist for a big improvement in Stansted's rail connection in the form of a spur line direct to the airport, and eventually a London terminal at the much more central St Pancras station.

But those are dependent on Stansted being designated London's third airport with an expansion in traffic from under 500,000 to 15 million a year: a contentious issue on which the public inquiry report is not expected until the summer.



Plain sailing: Mrs Virginia Bottomley, Conservative candidate in the Surrey south-west by-election on May 3, sailing yesterday on Frensham Ponds, in the heart of the constituency. In the general election in June, 1983, the Conservatives had a 14,351 majority. She has travelled to every corner of her constituency to meet members of the 35 party branches. Stafford by-election, page 4.

## £245,000 for crash victim's ruined life

A woman teacher who received £245,000 after a crash left her unable to walk said yesterday no amount of money could compensate for her loss of mobility.

The accident had ruined three lives: hers, her husband's and son's, she said. She needed regular nursing attention and her husband and son had to do a great deal for her.

Mrs Hazel Cook, aged 44, received the money in an out-of-court settlement after the National Union of Teachers had taken up her case. She had been involved in a head-on collision with a lorry in 1978 while driving to school.

Mrs Cook, who was deputy head at the Griffith Jones Secondary School at St Clears, Dyfed, broke her neck in the accident which left her without the use of arms or legs.

She spent more than eight months in hospital including specialist spinal units.

She is now cared for by her husband, John, who teaches English at Whitland Grammar School, and her son, Lyndon, aged 19.

She said yesterday at her home, Fourwinds, Llangynin, near St Clears: "No amount of money can compensate for one's loss of mobility. I am now totally dependent on other people after being a very active person who needed 48 hours in every day."

"An accident like this reduces living to mere existence. This has ruined three lives because my husband and son have to do so much for me."

"The fight for compensation was horrendous because I was made to feel guilty although I knew I was innocent."

"My solicitors and the union have worked tirelessly from the beginning of this and without them I would have given up."

Mrs Cook said that she would consider putting some of her award towards helping research work designed to help people paralysed by spinal injuries.

## 30,000 TVs smuggled from Ulster

Thirty thousand colour television sets were smuggled from Northern Ireland into the Irish Republic last year in a £12m trade which has reached "epidemic proportions", according to an Irish trade union official.

Mr Jim O'Connell told the annual conference of the Irish Union of Distributive Workers and Clerks at Westport, co Mayo yesterday that the future of the republic's television industry was threatened and up to 1,500 jobs were at risk.

He said that the industry which employed 9,250 people in 1979 now employed only 4,600.

Value-added tax on television sets and other electrical goods is 35 per cent in the republic compared with 15 per cent in Northern Ireland. Mr O'Connell said that unless the Irish Government reduced the tax more jobs would be lost.

## Firemen rescue trapped doe

Ten firemen rescued a doe deer after it became trapped in wire fencing in the centre of Reading, Berkshire, yesterday.

The tiny muntjac deer had wandered into Palmer Park, and had been knocked unconscious after being chased by a dog. She ended up with her head stuck and fire crews freed her.

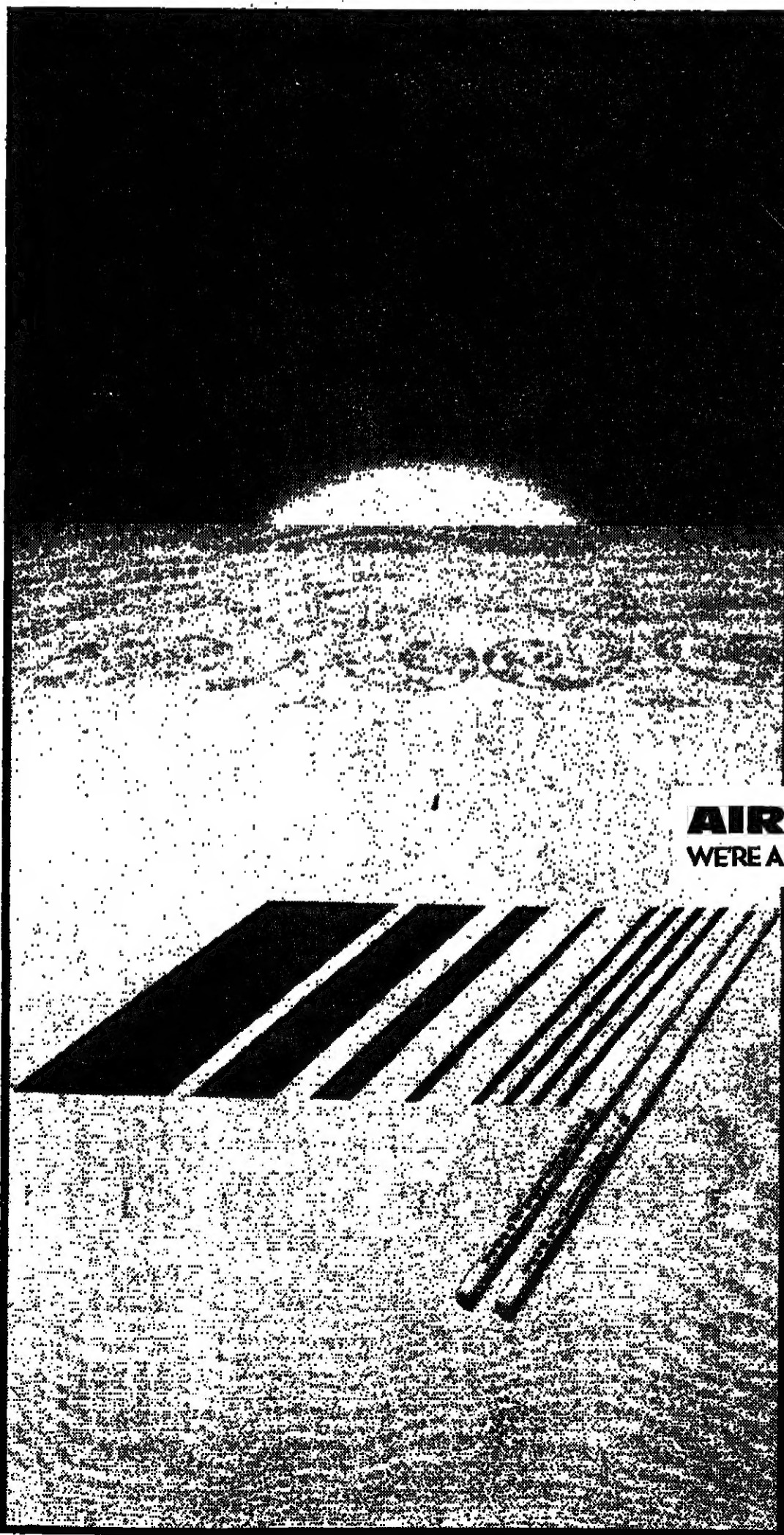
## Skater recovers

Robin Cousins, the skater, was back on the ice in Bristol yesterday fully recovered from the stomach infection which had kept him out of his ice show since Thursday. The show, averaging nine performances a week, moves to Manchester next week.

## Victim improves

Mr John Blundell, aged 35, an Air France employee, who was the most seriously injured victim of Friday night's bombing at Heathrow airport was progressing satisfactorily yesterday in Mount Vernon Hospital, Northwood, west London.

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## Search for tornado victims

Leading figures in the manufacturers federation have wanted to absorb the council as an act apart from it. The council will move to the federation's London headquarters in June and Sir Jeremy will be the leading staff member of each organization.

## Labour

**The rates rumpus: 2**

The consultants decided that the islands' economy needed widespread improvement to make the best use of its only industries of farming and tourism. The cost to the council of providing services is high, partly because of the heavy expenses of educating island children on the mainland and of disposing the refuse of the 2,000 inhabitants and the thousands of overseas visitors.

Tornadoes killed a total of 15 people throughout Mississippi and left a trail of damage in four other states. A tornado uprooted trees and damaged homes and businesses in the central Alabama town of Brent. Another damaged buildings and

The weather has caused 21 deaths throughout the country since last week. A small earthquake shook parts of the east coast on Sunday. No damage or injuries were reported.

Mr Andy Harris, chairman of the grants subcommittee of the Labour-led Greater London Council, said this month that the council's grants to community groups, totalling more than £5m a year from his subcommittee alone, were a efficient redistribution of resources.

## shall brief

"We naively believed the war budget could be swiftly turned around for development. But instead there was the disruption of the Portuguese returning from the colonies and demobilized soldiers, all on top of the West's oncoming depression due to successive oil crises", Colonel Alves, now retired, said.

while Major Otelo Saraiva de Carvalho, darling of the Revolutionary, extreme left and former commander of Copcon, then the armed security forces of the Revolution, is now doing a desk job. Many believe he was reinstated - he has been the only main revolutionary figure to suffer imprisonment - to keep him quiet.

Tomorrow: Social legacy

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- The need to manage positively, not just in a piano way which is born, the style of the Civil Service in the past.
- The need to manage change in a self-confident, fashion as described in the full commitment once a policy had been decided by ministers.

**Chittagong (Reuters)** - Bangladesh's Chittagong University was closed yesterday after clashes between rival groups in which at least 20 students were severely injured, university authorities said.

**Pershing protest**  
Orlando, Florida (Reuters) — Six men and two women peace activists were arrested after they broke into a building housing Pershing missile equipment, damaged a launcher and poured blood over files and papers, police said.

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# Israel finds another leader to fill vacuum left by death of Haddad

From Robert Fisk, Marjayoun, south Lebanon

On Major General Antoine Lahd's desk, beside a miniature flagpole bearing the pennant of the Lebanese army, there stands a framed coloured photograph of the late major Saad Haddad. The major was obviously proud of his picture for he is standing erect in his blue full dress uniform with a peaked cap and eyes front, faithful to the state he served, whether it happened to be Lebanon or Israel.

Major General Lahd's perspective of the Israelis who have armed his militia and clothed his men and appointed him commander of Haddad's so-called "South Lebanon Army" is both more circumspect and more critical than his predecessor. "If the Israelis want security on their northern border - and if we can give it to them - then there is no excuse for Israel to stay," he says.

"I was against Syria's entry into Lebanon in the same way as I am now against the Israelis remaining here on Lebanese territory."

Major General Lahd, a thick-set man with swept-back silver hair, chain-smokes as he speaks, glancing up every few seconds to ensure that his words have not been misunderstood. He resigned from the Lebanese army last year - "I did not believe it was going to carry out its mission," he says - yet still assiduously wears his old uniform, complete with insignia of rank, with the approval of the Israelis.

But the authorities in Beirut regard Major General Lahd as Israel's creature, a puppet in the mould of Haddad, who does Israel's bidding at Lebanon's expense. For their part, the Israelis have failed in every attempt to construct a Lebanese militia capable of protecting Israel's interests and northern border. At least one Israeli minister had publicly voiced his doubts that Major General Lahd's men could ever take over from the Israeli Army in southern Lebanon.

Major General Lahd himself



Major General Antoine Lahd: optimistic

claims that of the 2,000 men under his nominal command, many are still soldiers in the national army although no longer receiving salaries from Beirut. "They are southerners," he says. "They are from the people of Lebanon, of both religions, Christians and Muslims. There are 10 per cent more Christians at present but in the next couple of months it will be fifty-fifty... the South Lebanon army is going to take the place of the Israeli army. Wherever Israelis are present now, we will take their place. No one else is there to fill the vacuum."

But the Major General's optimism does not seem to be borne out by the facts. Many of his men still wear their old Phalangist uniforms with the triangular badge of the right-wing Christian militia on the shoulder. Although they are indeed Lebanese, their olive-green blouses and back webbing - even the way they hold their rifles with the strap slung round their necks instead of over their shoulders - makes them almost indistinguishable from Israeli troops.

Yet they are hardly faithful to the Israelis. Two of Major General Lahd's Shia Muslim militiamen in the southern Lebanese village of Deir Qanoun admitted to *The Times*

that they supported resistance to the Israelis and would turn a "blind eye" to anyone attacking Israeli soldiers. A Christian member of the SLA guarding the very gates of the Israeli headquarters at Kfar Falous, referred to his Israeli mentors as "pimps" and added:

Major-General Lahd himself volunteered to help the Israelis in southern Lebanon. "I presented myself to them at the Israeli office in Dbyeh (outside Beirut) and there were several more meetings," he says. "Then there was an agreement between us a month before the cancellation of the May 17th accord (between Lebanon and Israel). I knew by then that the Lebanese government was going to abrogate the treaty."

According to the Major General, his militia now controls all Lebanon south of the Israeli lines, including the lower Bekaa valley down to the Israeli frontier, from the Awali river to Naqurah and even the Christian mountain town of Jezzine. In fact, Jezzine is still under Phalangist control. "The Israelis are helping us materially - part of our material comes from Israel," he says, "and part of it we get from the money we take in taxes." The taxes, although Major-General Lahd does not say so, are illegal.

Of the guerrillas who are attacking the Israelis in southern Lebanon - and who would presumably turn their attention to the "South Lebanon Army" if the Israelis left - "It is not necessarily Shia Muslims who are doing this," he says. "There are organizations behind this resistance - and not all of them are inspired by clergymen."

Major-General Lahd's verdict on Haddad, however, is to the point. "He was a national and local hero," he says. "He tried to protect this area from Palestinian occupation. He was a courageous officer - a patriot. Now the Major General's patriotism is about to be put to the test."



Leaders at leisure: A cheerful President Reagan at his Honolulu hotel en route to China; and a casually-dressed President Chernomerkh caught in a more restful moment.

## Military chief puts blame on Aquino

Manila (Reuters) - The head of the Philippines armed forces, General Fabian Ver, said yesterday that Government security forces had failed to foil a communist plot to assassinate Mr Benigno Aquino, the late opposition leader, because he refused to cooperate.

General Ver told the inquiry into the murder that Mr Aquino refused requests by senior Government officials to delay his trip home by at least a month until "the threat was neutralized".

Mr Aquino was shot at Manila airport last August on his return from three years of self-imposed exile in the United States.

The military said the assassin was a notorious criminal and communist guerrilla leader, Mr Rolando Galman, who was shot dead on the airport tarmac.

"There was never any doubt that the killing was communist-inspired," General Ver said during cross-examination. "But our problem was the identity of the killer and how he planned to carry out the assassination."

● Mayor assassinated: The Mayor of Angadanan in Isabela province, Mr Jacinto Ong, has been assassinated by gunmen, the third mayor killed since the campaign for the May 14 parliamentary elections began last month (AFP reports).

## Brasilia turns the screw on election waverers

From Patrick Knight, São Paulo

All airlines and bus companies travelling to Brasilia are having to provide the authorities with complete lists of passengers, as 6,000 police and soldiers step up their guard on the 10 access roads to the capital.

The congressional debate on a proposal that the next president should be elected by direct suffrage, which begins tomorrow, is now expected to continue through to the early hours of Thursday morning, when the vote will finally be taken.

Most observers conclude that the constitutional amendment to enable President João Baptista Figueiredo's successor to be chosen directly will not gain the two-thirds majority needed even in the Chamber of Deputies, let alone the Senate.

The following imposition of emergency measures in Brasilia, which brought the climate of euphoria to an abrupt end, intense pressure has been brought to bear on congressmen by the government: President Figueiredo himself spent the

surrounding towns. Besides censorship they give the Government wide powers of arrest and forbid any kind of gathering.

The big question now concerns popular reaction to the very probable rejection of the amendment, in clear defiance of growing public opinion.

The Government is calculating that its own proposals, including direct elections in 1988 and reduction of the next presidential term to four years, introduced in the teeth of opposition from hardliners in the military, will mollify public opinion.

It seems certain that further concessions are having to be made behind the scenes, in order to win the votes of some of the 60 government party deputies who were in favour of direct elections.

● BRASILIA: The release was ordered here yesterday of eight people held under the emergency measures, including the six who had walked from São Paulo (Reuters reports).

## Cotton crop success story for Chad

Bongor, Chad (AP) - Western diplomats "describe Chad's comeback in the world cotton market despite the civil war as an important success story for a country which has been near the bottom of most lists of the world's poorest countries."

Cotton Chad, a company owned mainly by the Government, said that the final harvest figures showed the crop had more than doubled in the past two years, to 150,000 tons for the 1983-84 growing season.

Because world prices have been rising, and cotton is paid for in US dollars, the crop will fetch about twice as much as it did before the southern cotton-growing region was hit by the civil war in 1979.

Mr Alain des Chabannes, director-general of Cotton Chad, said that the 1983-84 crop was worth \$100m (£70.4m), equivalent to about 60 per cent of this landlocked country's foreign exchange earnings.

More important, it means focus on the table for the two million people, nearly half Chad's population, involved in cultivating, harvesting, ginning and transporting cotton.

Most attention on the war in Chad has focused on the desert north, where Libyan troops and rebels occupy almost a third of the country. Some 3,000 French soldiers have set up a defensive line along the sixteenth parallel, and President Hissène Habré's forces control most of the country to the south.

During the fighting in the south cotton production dropped from an average of about 131,000 tons in the 1970s to 90,000 tons in 1979-80, to 85,000 in 1980-81 and to 71,000 in 1981-2. As security began to improve, it reached 102,000 in 1982-3.

"This year the rains were good, well spread out and we had both a high production rate and good quality," des Chabannes said.

The crop is exported through Cameroon. Roads from the cotton region to N'Djamena are impassable except by four-wheel-drive vehicles. The main customers are Portugal, West Germany, Spain, France and Japan.

Because of the transport problems and the war, Cotton Chad had to invest heavily in its own lorries. During the war years, many vehicles were destroyed or requisitioned by the Army. The company also has to repair the roads itself. Cotton Chad is 75 per cent owned by the Government, 19 per cent by France and 6 per cent by local banks.

The company sets a guaranteed price at the beginning of each season, rising by about 10 per cent each year. Peasants say they will plant more cotton this year at the expense of sorghum, millet, sweet potatoes and peanuts.



## BA facing lawsuit over food poisoning

Riyadh (AP) - Saudi Arabia's deputy Commerce Minister will file a lawsuit next week against British Airways in connexion with food poisoning he says he suffered after a Concorde flight, his lawyer said here. Mr Abdul Rahman al-Zamil said he became severely ill about one hour after arriving in the United States on a BA flight from London in mid-March. He added that he had symptoms of salmonella poisoning.

About 180 passengers and crew members on 14 BA flights became ill in March after eating hours' *d'oeuvre* prepared by a catering service in London. Laboratory tests revealed *Salmonella* bacteria in a glaze applied to the snacks.

## High-rise heroes of Leningrad

Moscow (Reuters) - A mountaineering school has opened in Leningrad, a city as flat as a pancake, to train strong, athletic young men to carry out repairs on inaccessible high-rise buildings.

Tass said "industrial alpinism" would provide specialists to scale factory chimneys, television towers, cooling towers and monuments without using scaffolding.

## Eating again

Tijuana, Mexico (AP) - Elizabeth Bouvia, the 26-year-old quadriplegic cerebral palsy victim who staged a lengthy legal battle to be allowed to die, changed her mind on Easter Sunday morning and asked for help to get better. She then ate her first solid food in seven months, according to the *San Diego Union*.

## Easter victim

Nairobi (AFP) - Kenyan police arrested the parents of a young girl and one other person after interrupting a Good Friday ceremony in which the girl was about to be nailed to a cross.

## Jail sackings

Madrid (Reuters) - The head and deputy head of Spain's main post-security jail were dismissed yesterday after the weekend escape of three prisoners who used mock pistols made from soap to overpower guards and steal their uniforms.

## TV in a tent

Peking (Reuters) - "Nomadic herdsmen in China's remote Qinghai Province can now buy waterproof, antiseptic tents instead of the faded yak-hide yurts they have lived in for centuries," the New China news agency said. One herdman hopes to watch television on a set run off a wind-driven generator.

## Angolan toll

Lisbon (AFP) - The Unita bomb attack against a building housing Cuban technicians in Huambo, Angola, last week killed 24 people - 14 Cubans and 10 Angolans, Angolan radio reported. It said 30 people, Cubans and Angolans, were wounded and that six were in critical condition.

## Funeral battle

Johannesburg (Reuters) - Nine people were stabbed when rival undertakers clashed at a funeral in the black township of Soweto, the *Rand Daily Mail* reported. The incident was blamed on "business jealousy".

## Greek tempers flare in Euro poll campaign

From Mario Modiano, Athens

being denied equal campaign time on state radio and television.

New Democracy, the main opposition party, has been holding campaign rallies in provincial cities, and has protested that left-wing extremists, encouraged by the Government's indifference or even connivance, were trying to disrupt meetings and intimidate its followers.

It singled out a rally in Agrinion, in west central Greece earlier this month, where left-wingers burnt posters, damaged cars, and besieged a building. The Government has rejected these accusations, claiming that the incidents were engineered by New Democracy with the help of its fascist allies.

## Book ban revives P2 fear

From Peter Nichols, Rome

The decision by a Varese court to order the confiscation of four books about the collapse of Banco Ambrosiano, on the grounds of alleged libel, has dismayed many Italians.

The step, which appears to be without precedent, was taken at the request of legal advisers of Mr Umberto Ortolani, who has Brazilian citizenship. A warrant

is out for his arrest on charges connected with the failure of the Banco Ambrosiano.

The Communists in particular fear that the confiscation marks the return to power of the banned P2 masonic lodge.

Mr Ortolani is regarded as a close friend of Signor Licio Gelli, the head of P2 and now hiding.

## Birth 'disproves theory'

## Hybrid ligron bears a cub

From Our Correspondent Paris

It's a girl. News of the sex of a world first in the animal world - a tigrion - was flashed to *The Times* yesterday by the Vicomte Paul de la Fausse from his tiger park at Thoiry near Paris.

The park, part of the Vicomte's extensive zoo, was the scene on April 17 of the birth of a cub to a ligron, the offspring of a lion and a tigress. The nobleman said: "This is the first time that a hybrid such as a ligron has given birth, thus disproving the theory held until now that hybrids were sterile."

Horse and donkey offspring apparently gave hybrids this sterile reputation, according to the Vicomte, who is an authority in the animal world. The arrival of the tigrion and the discovery of its sex, a secret jealously guarded until yesterday by the snarling mother ligron, Julie, drew huge Easter crowds to the zoo where the Vicomte allows his animals to roam free. So free that lions and tigresses have been mating with ease.

The Vicomte decided to go into the ligron-hybrid business because of the habit of lionesses and tigresses of killing their young or allowing them to die. The first ligrons were four cubs which resulted from the liaison of a lion, "Bichon" and two tigresses, known as "The Nasties" (Les Méchantes). They were bottle-fed by the Vicomte and his head keeper.



Like mother, almost like daughter: Julie with her cub

One of these ligrons was Julie, who has now become a mother with her own tigrion.

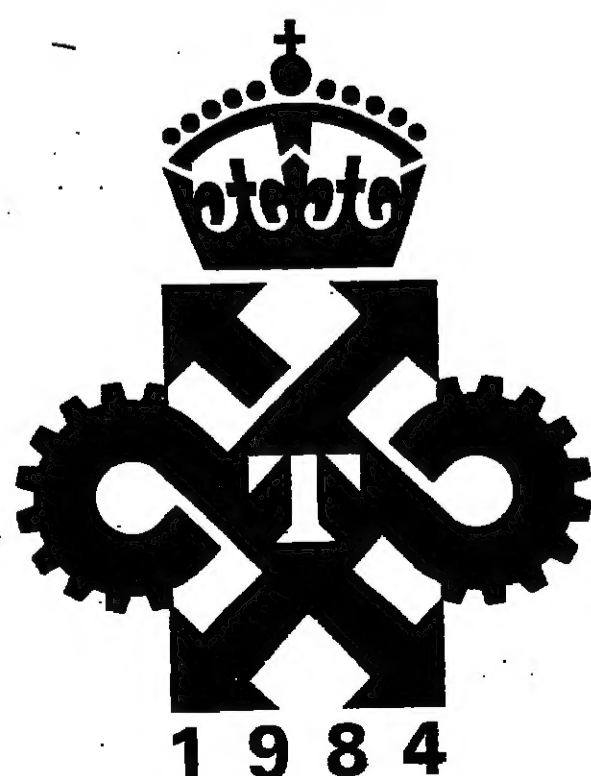
Speaking from his chateau, the Vicomte said: "We don't know for sure who is the father."

It could be old Bichon or Julie's half-brother, whom we call Patchwork. I am discovering that the ligron world resembles that of the Egyptian Dynasties when it comes to tracing the line."

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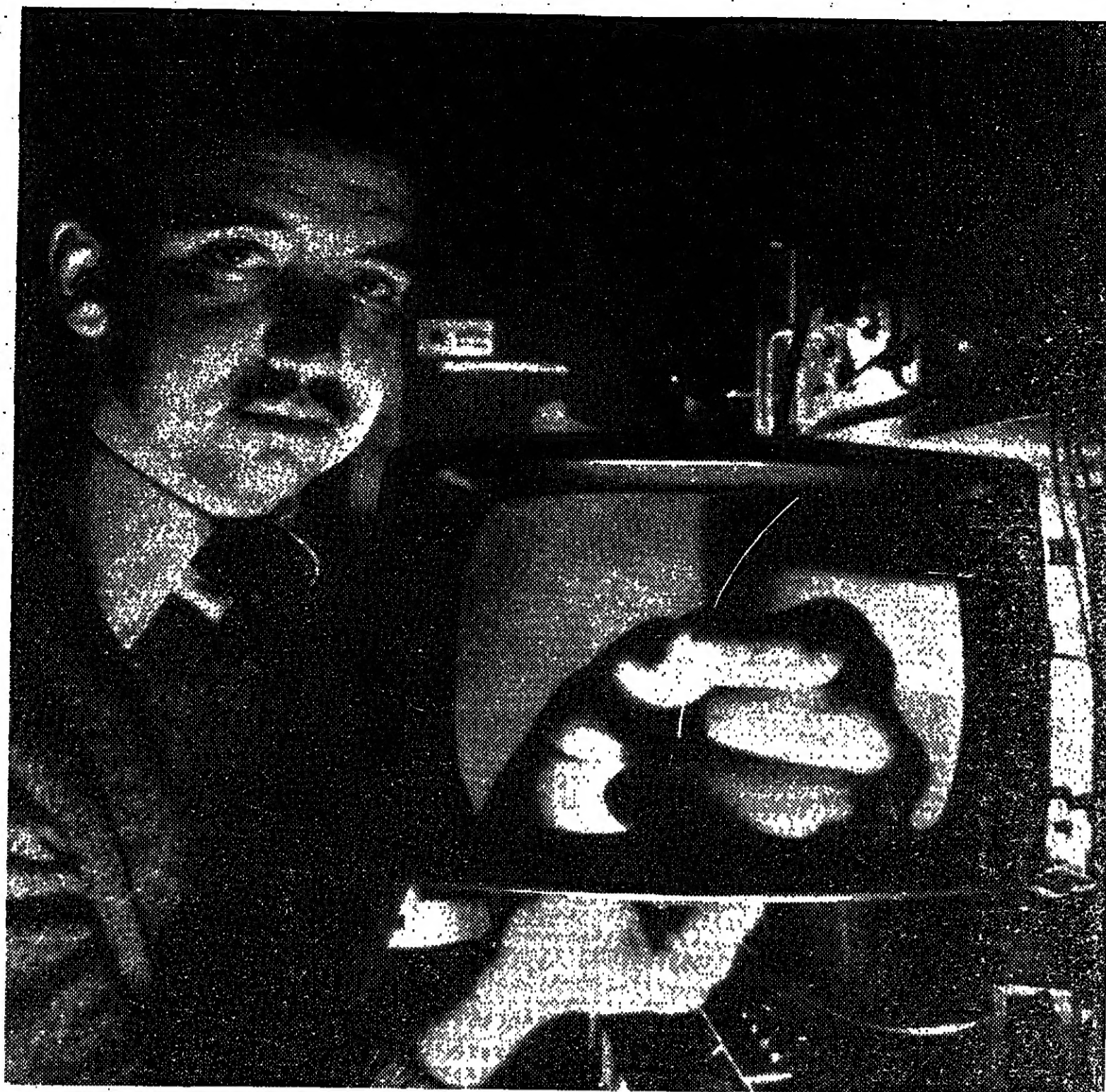
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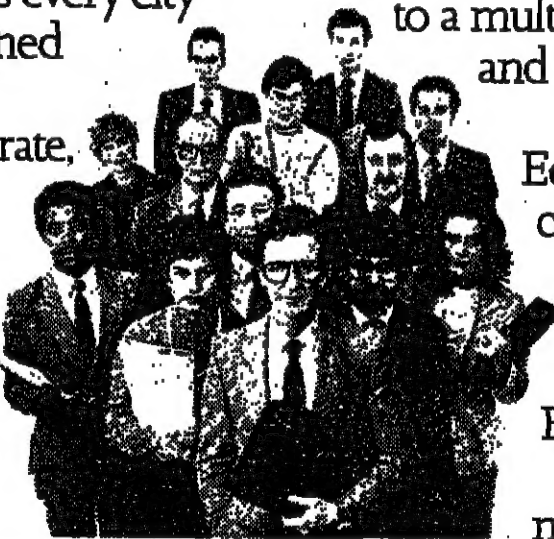
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## Delhi confident Punjab violence will be under control within two months

From Michael Hamlyn, Delhi

The Indian Government is convinced that it now has the measure of the Punjab terrorists, and will have the outbreak of mayhem and murder afflicting the state under control "within two months", according to Home Ministry officials.

The Home Secretary, the ministry's senior permanent official, Mr M. M. K. Wali, said yesterday: "We should be able to break their backs soon."

Mr Wali said that improved intelligence was the key to his optimism. Ministry officials estimated that the hard core of terrorists numbered between 400 and 500 people, though several hundred more were active on the periphery of the movement.

Officials are known to feel that bringing terrorism under control will help clear the way for meaningful talks with the more moderate leaders of the Sikh agitation. Whenever talks have been about to take place, some spectacular terrorist incident has always intervened to disrupt them.

The ministry was unable to disclose any immediate plans for talks with leaders of the Akali Dal, the Sikh political party which is organizing the agitation. A report that Mrs Indira Gandhi, the Indian Prime Minister, had had a long telephone conversation with Sant Harchand Singh Longowal, the Akali president, was denied.

The Home Minister, Mr P. C. Sethi, also denied there had been contact between the two yesterday, in the course of a long statement to the upper house of Parliament, the Rajya Sabha.

The Government was, however, at pains to point out that it was always ready for talks and indeed that most of the points at issue had already been solved. Officials considered that



Sant Longowal: Contact with Gandhi denied.

the hardest problems to clear up were those which affected other states, particularly the vexed question of the capital city of Punjab.

The capital, Chandigarh, which was designed by the French architect Le Corbusier, is at present shared between Punjab and the neighbouring Hindu state of Haryana, which was carved out of the Greater Punjab state in 1966.

The Akali agitators want Chandigarh for Punjab alone, and the Government is inclined to let them have it, but Mr Bhajan Lal, the Haryana Chief Minister, is proving obdurate.

It is said that he is threatening to take the Haryana Congress Party out of Mrs Gandhi's party altogether if he is forced to it.

The Government is aware, officials say, that any agreement eventually made with the Akali leaders will be opposed by the militants under the inspiration of Sant Jarnail Singh Bhindranwale. They expect, however, to be able to isolate the

extremists from the mass of the Sikh and Hindu inhabitants of the state and gain complete acceptance for the deal.

They point out that even in normal times there are often many murders in Punjab for reasons of passion or quarrels over water or land. The present troubles have meant that all crimes, including the usual run of bank robberies, are turned into terrorist outrages by the participants mouthing a few political slogans on their way out.

The Government also admits that the Punjab police have become demoralized by the terrorists, and by fear of being put on the hit list. More than 40 policemen have been killed so far. "Some of them could be partisan too", a senior official admitted. "We cannot rule out that possibility."

Arrests of members of the recently-outlawed All-India Sikh Students Federation made in the past few days have not netted as many hardcore terrorists as the authorities had hoped, but officials claim that two senior leaders were killed in a recent police encounter.

The Government has, however, set its face against the possibility of entering the Golden Temple in Amritsar to root out the extremists sheltering there.

"This is not a war situation", a senior official explained. "The objective is not to exterminate the enemy by any means. The Sikhs are a vibrant and vital part of our nation, and the Government would not want to run any step which would hurt any part of this community."

● Gun battle deaths: Four people were killed yesterday in a gun battle between security forces and armed men in the Punjab border town of Ferozepore (Reuters reports).

## Near-misses cast doubt on safety of US flights

From Trevor Fishlock, New York

The number of near-collisions involving airliners in the United States has increased considerably this year. Although air safety standards are very high, and scheduled flying is 30 times safer than car travel, a number of pilots, unions, controllers and safety specialists believe that safety margins are narrowing.

There are three main reasons for their concern: The air traffic control system had to be rebuilt after the sacking of 11,500 controllers who went on strike in August 1981. About 8,000 new people were recruited to work with the nucleus of controllers who did not stop work. But there are 3,000 fewer controllers than there were before the strike. Most do not have long experience, and many are over-worked.

Air traffic is back to pre-strike levels and is increasing. The 1978 deregulation of airlines, the dismantling of government controls on routes and fares, opened an era of strong competition and led to the founding of more airlines.

Competition, fare-wars and costs have put some airlines in trouble and increased pressure throughout the industry to reduce expenses. Some safety experts and airline unions allege that corners are being cut in maintenance and flight operations. The airlines say this is not true.

The industry and the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), the government agency responsible for safety and for promoting air transport, point to the safety record which has been steadily improving in recent years.

There has been a fall in the number of fatal accidents and in the number of rules violations. Last year there were 25 aircraft deaths and 310 million passengers carried.

The FAA is proud of the way the air traffic control network has been rebuilt, with fewer people handling movements. No accident has been attributable to controller's mistake, and until recently, the number of controller errors - near collisions - was decreasing.

But in the first 11 weeks of this year, according to FAA records, there were 377 operational errors by controllers, a sharp increase.

The best known near-collision incident was on New Year's Day when controllers put two Pan American jumbo jets, one from London, one from New York, on collision course over the Bahamas. One of the pilots turned sharply and the aircraft missed each other by 200 yards, or about one second in time.

The FAA explains the rise in official reporting of operational errors as being partly due to better electronic monitoring which reveals small mistakes that used to go unreported.

Nevertheless, some controllers are saying that they have too much to do, and there are signs of the sort of morale problems that led to the 1981 strike.

Concerns about air traffic control and the effects of deregulation are part of a growing debate on air safety in the United States. The pilots' union thinks that fierce competition among airlines, which has made some bankrupt, is certain to lead to a reduction in safety standards.

A senior pilot wrote last year, in an article critical of the airlines' wholesale attack on labour costs: "If you want to ride on the cheap, expect cheapness. Passengers would be appalled if they knew what the new economic reality has made standard practice: minimum fuel, rest, equipment list, engines. The risks are increasing."

In pursuit of its dispute with Continental Airlines, the pilots' union is taking newspaper space to list what it claims are near-misses and flying rule-breaking by the airline. Airlines and the FAA insist that safety remains the priority.

The FAA, however, is criticized by safety watchdog groups and individuals for being responsible for safety as well as for the promotion of the industry. It is said to be too friendly to the airlines.

## Crucifix conflict rumbles on

From Roger Boyes, Warsaw

displayed on the walls like a butterfly collection.

The radical Bishop Ignacy Tokarczuk Przemyski has urged his priests to ensure that crucifixes are attached in such a way that they cannot easily be removed. Some priests have threatened to deny access to their churches to anybody taking down crosses in schools.

The Government position on this dispute has remained unchanged, despite the compromise reached at Mielno. The Church accepted (reluctantly) that crosses would be removed from classrooms but won the right to keep crosses in the recreation area and dormitories. All pupils could keep their personal crosses and, theoretically at least, lay them on their desks during lessons.

But the communist authorities argue that the presence of schoolroom crucifixes is an example of intolerance, that is, it discriminates against those who do not want to be Catholics. It also, they say, violates fundamental principles separating Church and state.

But underpinning these considerations is the fear that the Church is trying quietly to undermine the state's role in educating the children of Poland. Many priests, outspoken about the "godlessness" of the Marxist regime, admit as much.

● PARIS: Mr Zbigniew Kowaleski, a former leading member of the Solidarity trade union, has been granted permission to stay another month in France, after the controversial decision by the authorities to expel him by April 28 (Alan Tiller writes).

The Interior Ministry's decision that he must leave France because he had "insufficient means of subsistence" created a furore on the left.

Mr Kowaleski was on a union visit to France when martial law was declared in Poland at the end of 1982, and was granted a one-year resident's card at the beginning of last year.

The French Government has given no public indication that it suspects him of illegal activities and considerable mystery surrounds the case.

## Prisoners of conscience



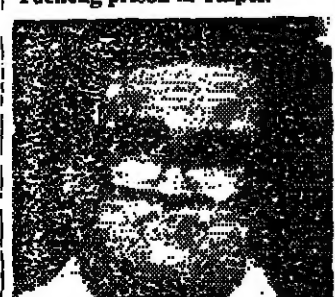
## Taiwan

### Wei Ting-chao

By Caroline Moorehead  
A writer and editor on *Formosa*, a now banned opposition political magazine, is serving a six-year prison sentence for inciting a group of people to commit or threaten violence. Wei Ting-chao was one of 101 people arrested in Taipei in December, 1979, after a demonstration, organized by *Formosa* to celebrate the anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, ended in violent clashes with police and with a reported 183 casualties among the security forces.

Three days after the rally, on December 13, most of *Formosa's* executives were arrested.

Wei Ting-chao was tried under criminal law. The evidence against him in court was based largely on the confessions of co-defendants, many of them later withdrawn in court. His sentence was upheld both on appeal in August, 1980, and by the Supreme Court in October that year. He is now in Tacheng prison in Taipei.



Wei Ting-chao: conviction based on confessions.

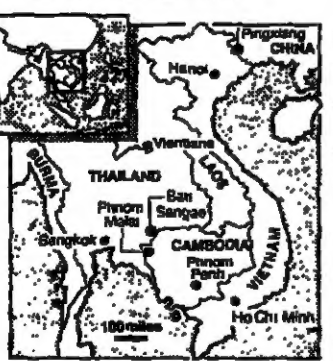
## First setback for Hanoi in Cambodian battle

Bangkok (AFP) - Cambodian nationalists have inflicted the first setback in five years of guerrilla war by forcing Vietnamese troops to pull back from besieging a base after nine days, Thai army sources said yesterday.

Guerrillas of the Khmer People's National Liberation Front, headed by Mr Son Sann, took back all their positions around Lake Ampil, at Cambodia's north-west border with Thailand, late on Sunday.

The lake, located about 2 miles east of the base inside Cambodia and 155 miles east of Bangkok, is the advanced post of the Ampil base, which Vietnamese forces have been besieging since April 14.

This is the first time that Hanoi's troops - of which there are between 150,000 and 170,000 in Cambodia - have had to retreat after failing to take a resistance base. About 250 men were killed in the battle for Ampil, 200 of them Vietnamese, Thai sources said. The army also said tension had



also eased somewhat in the Thai border province of Surin, the scene of clashes on Friday between Vietnamese and Thai troops.

The supreme commander of the Thai armed forces, General Arthit Kamlang-Ek, said that on Saturday fighter aircraft backed up ground forces by attacking Vietnamese forces with rocket fire when a unit intruded into Surin. The incursion was a minor one and all Vietnamese soldiers had left Thai territory.

## Andreotti defies Gromyko

From Richard Owen, Moscow

Mr Andrei Gromyko, the Soviet foreign minister, has launched a powerful attack on Nato.

During talks with Signor Giulio Andreotti, the Italian Foreign Minister yesterday, he compared a future nuclear exchange with the fall of Popei, and criticised European countries including Italy - which have accepted new American missiles on their soil. Mr Gromyko said America allies were being pushed to become party to a mad arms race.

"How many volcanoes does a thermo-nuclear bomb contain?" Mr Gromyko said.

Signor Andreotti, who leaves Moscow today after meeting President Chernenko, is the first of a series of West European foreign ministers to visit Moscow to take a closer look at the new Kremlin leadership.



Signor Andreotti: Plea to resume talks.

European leaders hope an East-West dialogue can be resumed, but Signor Andreotti is said to detect no hint of compromise from the Russians. Other ministers going to Moscow include Herr Hans-Dietrich Genscher of West

Germany next month. Sir Geoffrey Howe in July and President Mitterrand of France by the end of the year.

Italian sources said Mr Gromyko had been tough and direct, accusing Nato members of irresponsibility over Cruise and Pershing missile deployments.

Signor Andreotti said Nato was a purely defensive alliance, and the deployments would not have been necessary if Russia had not made the first move. Italy now favoured continuation of the abandoned arms talks without preconditions.

Mr Gromyko also said he wanted negotiations, but repeated Moscow's view that the Geneva talks could only be resumed if the "obstacles" posed by cruise and Pershing were removed.

Italy has so far deployed cruise 16 missiles, the same number as Britain.

## THE ARTS

Galleries

## Powerful emotion held in check

Robert Medley: Paintings 1928 to 1984

Museum of Modern Art, Oxford

Constructivism in Poland 1923 to 1936  
Riverside Studios

Anthony Caro: Sculpture 1969-84  
Serpentine

The most satisfying kind of retrospective is that in which the pattern of a career, previously sighted in little bits and pieces, suddenly becomes clear and shows itself to have a logic and coherence one would previously have barely guessed at. Such a show is the Oxford Museum of Modern Art's tribute to Robert Medley as he approaches his eightieth year. In Oxford until May 20, after which it will go to Colchester, Bolton, York and Huddersfield (but curiously not London), the selection of paintings covers the years 1928 to 1984, and is the first substantial one-man show of the kind Medley has had since the memorable Whitechapel Art Gallery exhibition more than 20 years ago. It is easy to see why, for he is in no way a fashionable painter, easy to slot into some currently modish pigeonhole; but for this reason also it is important to be able to see a lot of his work together in order to find out what criteria it proposes for its own judgment, and how well it measures up to its own inherent standards.

The first of one notices is the quality of the emotion in Medley's work. Enormous technical proficiency one can immediately take for granted: any painter who could produce something as confident as *Sightseers at a Circus* at the age of 23, reflecting the influence of Sickert but forbidding us to make comparisons, has nothing to fear on that score. And this and other early paintings immediately demonstrate Medley's skill at imbuing everyday happenings of no particular apparent significance with a powerful emotion which is always held in check - but sometimes, one feels, only just - by the dictates of a rigorous sense of form. It is tempting to call this combination of qualities theatrical, especially when we remember Medley's long involvement with experimental theatre during the 1930s, and note the number of paintings like *R. D. Dancing* (R.D. was Rupert Doone, Medley's life-long lover) which have a directly theatrical inspiration.

But the term "theatrical" tends to have a slightly pejorative connotation in other arts, and there is never anything superficial or histrionic about Medley's work: it seems always to be the product of deep thought as well as feeling. If the totality of the show reminds us of anyone, it would have to be Medley's just-junior Rodrigo Moynihan: they seem to have developed in a rather similar, unfashionable fashion, moving unpredictably closer to and then further from the borderline of abstraction. There has been only one point in Medley's career when he went right over, to produce the calm,



Thought as well as feeling: detail from Medley's *Dancers* (1929)

exquisitely graded geometrical abstractions of the late 1960s and early 1970s like *Pezize* (1972). But from the mid-1940s, when he returned from the war to take up painting again, the paintings gradually generalize their human figures or industrial landscapes more and more, until if it were not for the titles one would be hard put to it to recognize for sure what the figurative basis of the composition might be. The landscapes around Gravesend painted just earlier than this point, in the mid-1950s, strike a particularly happy balance, as do one or two contemporary portraits, such as that of Elizabeth Frink in 1956.

But, happy though that balance was, Medley has never been able to shrink from the logic of his own creative processes, either when it came to embracing complete abstraction or, a little later, when he found himself gradually returning to clear figuration. Some of his most recent work, such as the astonishingly, mysteriously impersonal *An Autobiographical Incident* (an almost nude figure being lifted over the heads of a crowd, rather like the later stages of a Deposition) or the splendidly interested, unperturbed pictures of punks in the street, are among his strongest and best, and make one leave the show with a satisfying feeling of uncertainty: of how many painters nearing 80 can one say that it is impossible to guess what they will do next - and that one awaits the next development with eager anticipation?

The show of Constructivism in Poland 1923 to 1936, at the Riverside Studios Gallery until May 20, possibly sounds like one of those worthy pieces of archaeological research, digging up something which could really interest only the art historian and the specialist. Not a bit of it. Take away the title

and the labels, and you are left with something which might have been made only yesterday and would look perfectly current tomorrow. Constructivism was clearly one of those international movements which, like Communism, mutated in each country that took it up into something quite distinctive and national. Recently, in the Costakis Collection, we had a chance to see how it all developed on Russian soil: a little while before, the Hungarian strain was on show at the Hayward; and now the Polish version hits us with full force in this relatively small but choice show, drawn mainly from the Muzeum Sztuki in Lodz, which is apparently the oldest museum in the world specifically devoted to new art.

But what does it actually look like? Well, there is the metal sculpture of Katarzyna Kobro, for example, which is completely abstract, playing off areas of polished metal against areas of polished metal against areas of polished metal in the air or four-square constructions rooted to the spot for all the world as though this were by a contemporary of, say, Philip King. There are the cunning abstract paintings of Wladyslaw Strzemiński, which play with thin, close-laid stripes of complementary or subtly contrasting colours as ingeniously (and sensuously) as anything in Bridget Riley to produce the same kind of eye-deceiving effect. There are the "heliographs" of Karl Hiller, made by manipulating the photographic plate itself so that the image is almost literally drawn by the light. (The invaluable Anneli Juda Gallery introduced us to these extraordinary pieces two years ago.) And there are experimental films on the video which look suspiciously like early Polansky even though they were made around the time

of his birth. I find it difficult to imagine that anyone, however uninterested in "modern art", could go through this show without at least an occasional lift of delight or moment of pleasurable incredulity at matching the date on the label with the artwork actually before his eyes.

However, there is no accounting for taste, and I must confess myself curiously unimpressed by the Serpentine's elegantly staged retrospective Anthony Caro: Sculpture 1969-84, generously sponsored by United Technologies (until May 28). I can make this confession the more gracefully since I seem to be virtually the only person who feels that way; otherwise everyone thinks that Caro is the greatest sculptor of his generation, and British sculpture's best page of seriousness and quality abroad. So be it. There is certainly no doubt that he knows exactly what he is doing, that he has his own distinctive style (even if he has stuck to it without significant variation for rather too long), and manages consistently to create shapes (abstract despite their evocative and sometimes whimsical titles) which are interesting from all angles.

So why is it that I remain respectful but unmoved, mildly approving but sadly unimpressed? Possibly it is because I find the works, whatever their date, too redolent of the Swinging Sixties, and oddly beside the point of here and now. Or possibly I suspect that there is a lack of emotional input on the artist's part, so that we are invited to admire primarily a technical exercise. I just do not know, so I suppose you will have to go along and see for yourselves, if only so that you can tell me exactly why I am wrong.

John Russell Taylor

Concert

## Beethoven without bite

LSO/Abbado

Festival Hall/Radio 3

The messages of Easter and Schiller's *Ode to Joy* have their parallels, and so it was a good idea for the London Symphony Orchestra to programme Beethoven's Ninth Symphony on Sunday, in the middle of their current Beethoven cycle rather than at the end. But to juxtapose that work with anything else is to court disaster, and sure enough the partner work here, the Eighth Symphony, duly suffered. It was not because the earlier piece compares badly as music - it does not - but because the orchestra succumbed to the temptation to treat it as the curtain raiser to it. Rhythms lacked crispness and Claudio Abbado, the conductor, failed to generate the requisite impetus.

The Ninth tends to generate its own impetus, of course; even so, this reading was not as stirring as it could have been. I suspect that Abbado may be trying too hard to cultivate a personal way with Beethoven, negating rather than illuminating the music in the process. His first movement was very much in the grand manner, the large body of strings and the doubled woodwind producing an opulence which is simply inappropriate. This is music built from chaos, from the raw materials of nature, but here it was just too civilized.

The Scherzo similarly lacked a certain bite, with the timpanist producing a rather muffled sound. Harder sticks might have helped. But it takes a considerable art

to make the slow movement flow as Abbado made it, especially given his spacious tempo. There was excellent solo work here, not least from the fourth horn, though perhaps the first violins might have made more of their dancing dotted rhythms. Even Beethoven, with his most mellow is shot through with flashes of extraordinary colour.

Helped by the jubilant singing of the London Symphony Chorus, whose first *tutti* entry was simply breathtaking, the finale duly made its effect. The team of solo singers,

Elizabeth Connell, Alfredo Hodgson, Francisco Araiza and Benjamin Luxon, sang with apposite robustness, although as usual the unaccompanied quartet towards the end was an incoherent mess.

None of that mattered to this capacity audience, though. They were on their feet at the end, responding with fervour to the optimism of music that can survive even this kind of performance, over-sophisticated in conception and in many ways wanting in realization.

Stephen Pettitt

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## THE ARTS

From Berg's *Lulu* to the currently popular series *Top Cs and Tiaras*, Julia Migenes Johnson knows no musical barriers: interview by Peter Lewis

## A singer prepared for all songs

The film of *Carmen* that is the current toast of Paris, with Julia Migenes Johnson playing the title role to Plácido Domingo's Don José, is expected to be seen here in the autumn. While waiting for the new American *Carmen* singing opera numbers on Channel 4's *Top Cs and Tiaras*. Instead of the Habanera, we can see what she makes of "When I Grow Too Old to Dream" - which is a good deal.

Julia Migenes Johnson has always had a dual career, with a foot in both camps, opera and opera. Broadway and the Met. She left Broadway for Germany to sing the lead in *West Side Story*; last year she sang Berg's *Lulu* to unwonted enthusiasm at the Vienna State Opera. "I couldn't live without both kinds of music," she says. "If I was singing only opera I would feel I was missing out on a certain kind of vitality. But, without opera, I would be missing the euphoria that is fusion of words, music and emotion gives you."

*Top Cs and Tiaras* pioneered a new, relaxed, unstuffy approach to

light music on television when it was given a couple of airings last year (recently repeated). There are no tiaras, there is not much evening dress, no old-fashioned pomp and hand-clapping - and no audience. Julia Migenes Johnson is the host, with three or four regular guests, such as Benjamin Luxon and Marilyn Hill Smith. They let their hair down together, not in a studio or theatre but a country house, singing round a piano to one another or wandering through the glided rooms or the grounds.

The music spans opera from Strauss and Léhar to Sigmund Romberg, with a leaning of Gershwin, Coward, Cole Porter, Ivor Novello and even Julian Slade. The first programmes won such positive and warm-hearted viewer response that the new ones will run for six Sundays. The artists help to choose their songs, miming is banished - it is shot as it is sung - they give every appearance of really enjoying themselves.

"I am having great fun," says Johnson between rehearsals. "The

only problem is that I know the Viennese songs in German and the German words will sometimes slip out." As a star of German television specials, she won the "Golden Bambi", awarded by a public opinion poll in German-speaking countries, two years running, both as most popular entertainer and classical artist - scoring once again with both barrels.

It was against this record that she auditioned for *Carmen*. She was picked by the director, Francesco Rosi, who was seeking Spanish realism, for her dancing as well as her singing. This *Carmen* dances like an Andalusian gypsy should, after an apprenticeship with the company of Antonio Gades (who himself played Don José in the flamenco film version). Dancing was in her Puerto Rican blood but she had to give up the ambition because she was only 5 ft 2 in (her fur coats brush the floor). "I hadn't the legs, so I said, forget it, I'll sing." Filming was done at Ronda, high in the Andalusian mountains, using Spain's most ancient bull-ring. The hardest test for her was dancing the tavern

scenes while miming to the pre-recorded soundtrack. "It's very difficult to live a role and stay in synch," she says ruefully.

The film's conductor was Lorin Maazel, her old boss from the Vienna State Opera: "A brilliant man who is both extremely exacting and fun. He's relaxed and he helps. If you need to take time over a passage, or to go faster, he's right there with you every time. Of course, I could never play *Carmen* on stage. I have a light, high soprano, not a mezzo, but the low notes have been strengthened to cut through the orchestra. Nothing can make a soprano sound like a mezzo, even with all the technical tricks. The sound is my sound."

She began her career in New York as one of the "Migenes Kids", who emerged from a Manhattan basement apartment to tap-dance and sing in local shows (the other kid, her brother, became a psychologist). Her father was Puerto Rican, her mother Greek, though she has never seen either's homeland. It made her ideal casting for her first big role, Maria in *West Side Story*, when it



By the time her voice had developed, she was already a name in Germany for her light music concerts on television and her roles at the Vienna Volksoper. After that the big circuit started: Musetta in *La Bohème* in San Francisco followed by the Met, where she also did *Pagliacci* and *Mahagonny*. There was a much-acclaimed Salome for Béjart in Geneva. Then came *Lulu*. "I like *Lulu* - it's not difficult when you have a high voice. For the first time for years there was no first-night booing at the State Opera." She has such an ear that she learnt the part from tapes.

How easily can you bridge the division between her two kinds of music? "For me there's good music and bad music. That's the only divide. I use the same voice in both: the stylistic difference is mostly a matter of leeway. With opera you can take more leeway, more rubato. With Mozart there's hardly any leeway."

Married twice, she insisted that her two-year-old daughter travelled with her around Europe but she is anxious to settle down for a while at the house on Long Island. "I only spent five weeks at home last year. I've been emptying my batteries since last May. I want to spend a year going to the movies and being mother and just taking lessons. You must fulfil yourself but not at the cost of everything else." All the same, she is now back in rehearsal at the Met.

## PUBLISHING

## Finding the price

The single most emotive subject in publishing is the net book agreement, which has been in force since January 1, 1960, and as a result of which the trade commits itself to selling most new books at fixed prices. This is because, and increasingly, publishing is primarily about money, staying in business to be able to indulge in the activity of publishing next year, and the year after, or appearing to do well enough, as Lord Weidenfeld is trying at present, to persuade someone to pay you sufficient to buy your firm from you. If, in the struggle to survive, literature has to go by the board, then it has to go by the board.

A new subject, though, is rearing its head in the eyes where publishers meet and confide, and that is something which the Chancellor of the Exchequer recently hinted at, on all places, the Jimmy Young programme. He mailed the idea that, come the next Budget or the one thereafter, VAT might be levied on, among other commodities, new books. as is the case in certain other EEC countries. This in spite of the fact that it was applied to books in the Irish Republic for a while, only to be removed two years ago.

The 1960 net book agreement was superseded by a revised version in 1957, and that was defended at great cost to the book trade - some think in more senses than one - in the Restrictive Practices Court in 1962. The defence of the trade, which Mr Justice Buckley accepted, was that two titles are the same and therefore are not in competition with each other; if the agreement were rescinded large numbers of stockholding bookshops would go out of business to the detriment of civilized values; that fewer titles would be published; and that the retail prices of all but the most instant best-sellers would soar.

It was not suggested that your local W.H. Smith & Son would, as a consequence, begin to stock learned tomes by the thousand but that, if W.H. Smith & Son could within the law of the land undercut Heffers and Blackwells and Dillons and any high-street bookshop in the pricing of best-sellers, no one - or too few - would continue to buy from booksellers unable to afford to slash their prices. The losers, it was believed in 1962, would be the bookshops with an interest in the more-than-ephemeral titles.

This was 22 years ago. W.H. Smith & Son have recently shown a concern to operate as decent and responsible booksellers, and whatever has happened to other high-street bookshops they are mostly no longer in the high street. The price of serious books, especially non-fiction, is now so steep that it is the reason why people do not buy. (Two books, picked almost at random from a recent newspaper: *The Rise and Fall of the Political Press in Britain* by Stephen Koss, Hamish Hamilton, £25; *The Idea of Poverty* by Gertrude Himmelfarb, Faber, £20.)

Libraries, too, owing to the escalating price of new titles and the sluggish increase in their purchasing budgets, are being ever more selective if not necessarily discriminating in what they buy. Consequently publishers are printing fewer and fewer copies of non-best-sellers at higher and higher retail prices. After all, if the book is in danger of selling out, a few more copies may be printed, and the retail price raised even higher.

It is becoming increasingly illogical to justify the net book agreement. If a book costs as much as £20 it surely makes sense, both to publisher and purchaser, that if a copy may be bought for £18 then the buyer feels he or she has secured, if not exactly a bargain, at least a reasonable deal. On the other hand, it is difficult to believe that the kind of reader interested in serious non-fiction would desert his or her regular bookshop, flit from shop to shop (if another can be found), town to town, in search of a way to save a couple of pounds. Best-sellers may now be acquired so readily from book clubs or in paperback or even remainder shops that those customers who remain, for whatever reason, loyal to their local bookseller deserve a break, as does the bookseller who has stuck it out.

It is hard to accept that the arguments of the market-place which justified the retention of the net book agreement in 1962 pertain today. If a book costs £20, say, £10 people will only purchase it if they feel they have to have it, whether it is £15 or £18. If there is even the possibility that VAT may be added to the retail cost, it is all the more important that books should be allowed to find their own price.

E. J. Craddock

## Television

## Perfectly tailored

Where the *Wild Things* Are (BBC 2) was a most imaginative production and, unlike most opera on television, it did not give the impression of being squeezed into too small a space - the effect of some televised opera resembles that of a bee-swarm forced into a matchbox, and can be equally cacophonous. The picture-book imagery and sometimes startling designs of Oliver Knussen's short work seemed to adapt perfectly well to the screen, and may in fact have been enhanced by it.

The story of Max's infantile journey would certainly have appealed to adults, just as the monsters would have gratified the ferocious appetites of children - and Karen Beardsley, as Max himself, added a new horror to infancy as she lynched the teddy bear and cut off the heads of the toy soldiers. The voyage to the land of the "wild things" was excellently contrived and was a small miracle of staging: overtly theatrical effects lose none of their power on television and, indeed, since they are so rarely employed, seem all the more effective. In fact *Where the Wild Things Are* seemed to be one of those works which depend more upon production values than singing (which is no doubt why it was

chosen in the first place) - and, as *Fraggle Rock* invaded Glynedebourne, even those who do not particularly care for opera must have been intrigued by the spectacle.

There are no doubt cultural anthropologists who will be able to interpret the work as some grand *rite de passage* arranged for several voices, and certainly much of its power derived from the fact that it expressed in simplified and colourful form enduring human nightmares: "Here Be Monsters" being the oldest prohibition in the world. Karen Beardsley sang as if her life depended on it - which, as far as the audience was concerned, it did.

Perfect Lives (Channel 4) was another form of "opera for television" - or, rather, it was a programme in which the narrator sang and chanted. Using modern filmic techniques, and incorporating the insistent music of Robert Ashley (who has described himself as the heir both to Frank Sinatra and John Cage), it managed to create an extraordinarily interesting surface - as close as anyone is likely to get to a pure televisual art. This series is not to be missed (and for once that cliché really does apply).

Peter Ackroyd

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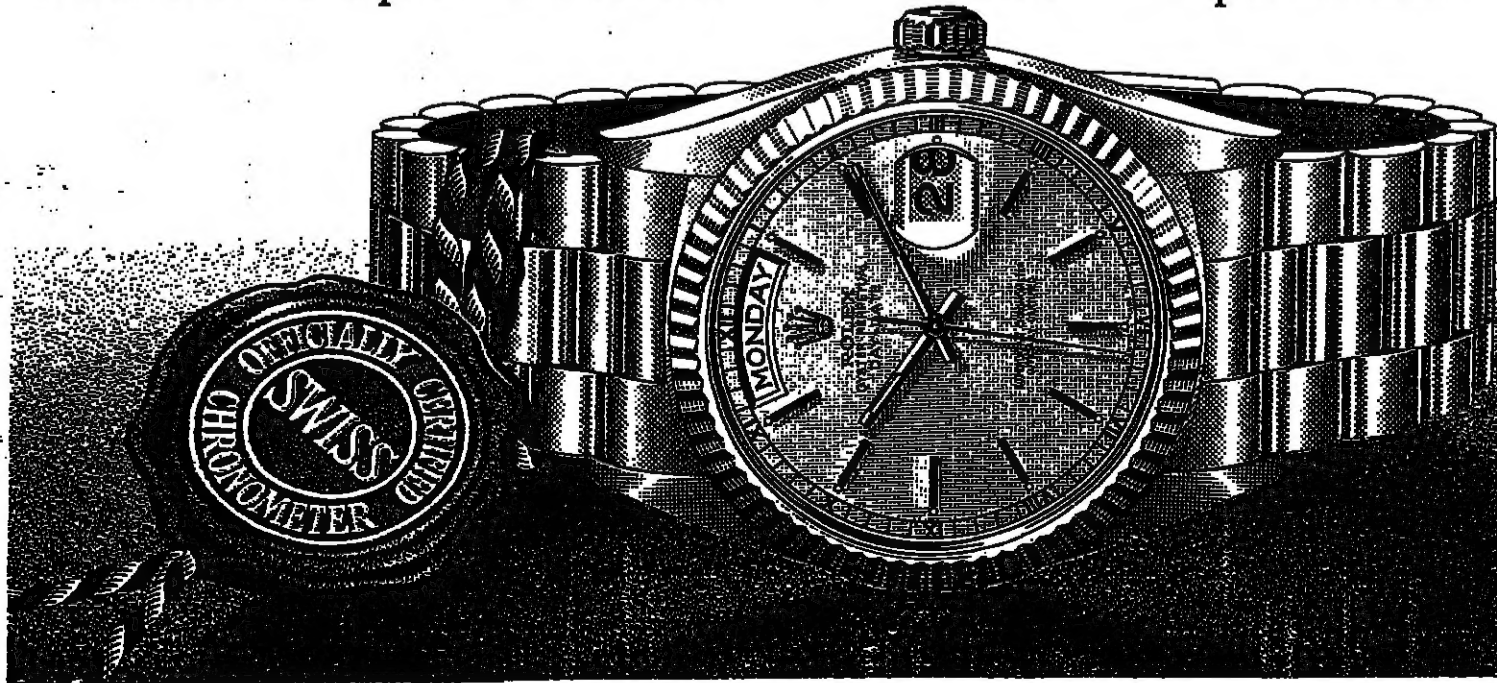
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## SPECTRUM

## Does cholesterol really kill you?

The latest medical villain is cholesterol. Too much leads to heart disease, or so fashionable opinion would have us believe. But is this claim supported by fact? Thomson Prentice, Science Correspondent, looks at the conflicting evidence

Coronary heart disease kills more than 150,000 people in Britain each year, and is the single biggest cause of death. It is more lethal in numbers of victims than all cancers combined. Increasingly, the chief agent provocateur behind the disease is being identified in just one word: cholesterol.

In America earlier this year a medical study, at \$150m believed to be the most expensive ever conducted, not only confirmed that cholesterol in the blood is directly linked with heart disease, but also showed that lowering cholesterol levels in the blood significantly reduces the incidence of heart attacks.

Radical changes in the British way of eating are already being advocated by some leading health experts, and they point to such evidence for support. Within the next decade, they hope to cut the death toll of coronary heart disease by up to a quarter, largely through influencing our choice of diet.

But what is cholesterol, is it as much of a killer as some scientists say, and what should we do about it? If there were such an organization as the Cholesterol Defence League, it would now be leaping to its feet to serve us a timely reminder of a few facts. We need cholesterol. We should die without it. It is produced in the liver in greater quantities than it is delivered into our systems through the food we eat. It is essential for making our cell membranes and hormones, and vital for our digestion.

The problem with cholesterol is that it is not soluble in the bloodstream. It is a fatty, waxy substance which can build up over the years to clog and choke the arteries until the blockages are so severe that the blood simply can no longer reach the heart or brain. The result of such a process, which may take several decades, is a heart attack or stroke.

Scientific studies have shown that the higher the level of blood cholesterol, or its main component, low density lipoprotein cholesterol (LDL-cholesterol), the greater the risk of such heart disease developing. Those foods which contain high levels of cholesterol have long been identified, and nutritionists and dietitians warn constantly of the dangers of too many eggs, too much cheese, and so on.

It all seems simple enough. Some

foods contain too much cholesterol; the more cholesterol in the blood, the more chance of a heart attack; solution - eat less of those hazardous foods. In addition, do not smoke cigarettes, watch your weight and take regular exercise, and a distinguished group of health professionals forecast last week, yours could be one of 40,000 lives a year saved as a result.

But, of course, the case against cholesterol is not as simple as that. Some otherwise impressive scientific studies have been inconclusive about the extent to which reducing blood cholesterol can lower the risk of coronary heart disease.

Three months ago, the results of the biggest trial were announced in America. It was a research project which had lasted 10 years and involved 3,806 men, all with higher than average cholesterol levels. Half of them were put on daily doses of a cholesterol-lowering drug, cholestyramine, and the others were given a placebo.

At the end of the study, those who had taken the drug had suffered 19 per cent fewer heart attacks, and their death rate from such attacks was 24 per cent lower than the rate for those in the placebo group. Their average blood cholesterol level was 8.5 per cent lower.

The project director, Professor Basil Rifkin, said that the evidence was "the turning point we have been waiting for" and Dr Robert Levy, vice president for health sciences at Columbia University, its former director, said: "If we can get everyone to lower his cholesterol 10 per cent to 15 per cent by cutting down on fat and cholesterol in the diet, heart attacks will decrease by 20 to 30 per cent."

The *Lancet* commented: "These new results suggest strongly that energetic cholesterol reduction can reduce the high risk (of people with higher than average levels) perhaps by up to half."

The study has prompted British surveys, including one involving 25,000 patients due to start this summer, and agreement among some leading doctors that everyone aged over 30 should have a blood cholesterol test carried out by their GP; such a check once every 10 years would be a sufficient warning of impending risk of related illness.

In a document published last week, *Coronary Heart Disease Prevention - Plans for Action*, a group of medical experts and health professionals, including nutritionists and dietitians, called for improved labelling of foods to enable consumers to identify foods according to their fat content, and emphasized the need to educate the public better about healthy diet.

However, some scientists and doctors remain unconvinced that the risk of heart disease can be reduced by eating less cholesterol, and unimpressed by the recent findings. The reductions in cholesterol in men taking part in the American study, they point out, were achieved not through diet, but by drugs.

Dr James Le Fanu, medical editor of *Medical News*, a journal for GPs, is highly critical of current attitudes on cholesterol and diet. "The effect of these 'plans for action' will be as in the past. Some people will be frightened enough into making minor changes such as substituting margarine for butter or using skimmed milk. This

will not influence their blood cholesterol."

He argues that the body's mechanisms are so powerfully designed to maintain steady levels of cholesterol that attempting to influence them by changing what we eat requires such radical changes in diet as to be impractical.

Cholesterol is undoubtedly a risk

factor, but other factors such as family history, blood pressure, cigarette smoking, age and sex, have also to be taken into account. The complete picture on cholesterol is not yet available to scientists, and more studies are in progress. Meanwhile, however unjustly, health educationists suggest that, in dietary terms, cholesterol is guilty until proven innocent.

## Cholesterol: a guide to which foods contain how much

	ADVISABLE	IN MODERATION	NOT ADVISED
<b>CEREAL FOOD</b>	Wholemeal flour, oatmeal, wholemeal bread, wholegrain cereals, porridge oats, crispbread, wholegrain rice and pasta, sweetcorn	White flour, white bread, sugar coated breakfast cereals, white rice, pasta	Fancy biscuits, e.g. chocolate, digestive, shortbread, cream biscuits, cream crackers
<b>FRUIT &amp; VEGETABLES</b>	All fresh and frozen vegetables - peas, broadbeans, sweetcorn, dried beans and lentils are particularly high in fibre. Baked potato - eat skins wherever possible. Fresh fruit. Dried fruit	Chips if cooked in suitable oil or fat, avocado pears, olives	Potato crisps, chips cooked in unsuitable oil or fat
<b>NUTS</b>	Walnuts	Almonds, brazil nuts, chestnuts, hazelnuts, peanuts	Coconut
<b>FISH</b>	All white fish, oily fish, e.g. herrings, tuna	Shellfish occasionally	Fish roe
<b>MEAT - LEAN</b>	Chicken, turkey, veal, rabbit, game	Ham, beef, pork, lamb, bacon, lean mince, liver and kidney occasionally	Visible fat on meat (including crackling), sausages, pâté, duck, goose, streaky bacon, meat pies, meat pasties
<b>EGGS &amp; DAIRY FOODS</b>	Skimmed milk, skimmed milk cheese e.g. cottage and curd cheese, egg white (3 egg yolks per week only)	Edam cheese, Camembert, Parmesan	Whole milk, cream, hard cheese, Stilton, cream cheese, excess egg yolks
<b>FATS</b>	All fats should be limited	Margarine labelled 'high in polyunsaturates', corn oil, sunflower oil, soya oil, safflower oil	Butter, dripping, suet, lard, margarine not high in polyunsaturates, cooking/vegetable oil of unknown origin
<b>MADE-UP DISHES</b>	Skimmed milk puddings, low fat puddings e.g. jelly sorbet, skimmed milk sauces, pastry puddings, cakes and biscuits made with suitable margarine or oil and wholemeal flour	Pasty puddings, cakes and biscuits made with suitable margarine or oil and white flour, ice cream	Tinned or whole milk puddings, dairy ice-cream, pastry puddings, cakes, biscuits and sauces made with whole milk, eggs or unsuitable fat or oil. All proprietary puddings and sauces.
<b>SWEETS, PRESERVES AND SPREADS</b>	Bovril, Oxo, Marmite	Meat and fish pastes, boiled sweets, fruit pastilles, peppermints, etc., jam, marmalade, honey, sugar	Peppermint, chocolate, toffees, lumps, humbugs, liquorice, hard sweets, marmalade, sugar
<b>DRINKS</b>	Tea, coffee, mineral water, unsweetened fruit juices, clear soups, homemade soups e.g. vegetable, lentil	Packet soups, Alcohol	Green tea

Source: The Simon Broome Heart Research Trust

moreover...  
Miles Kington

In all the euphoria over British Rail's profit of £4m, one problem has remained unsolved. Who are "other passengers"? If you studied the statistical breakdown of BR's passengers, you will remember that along with all those who commute, go on company business or reach holiday destinations by train, 3 per cent are listed as "other passengers". Who are these people of mystery?

I have been doing a little private interviewing of "other passengers" and present my research data here. Thelma Ladbroke: "I test equipment for a firm that makes personal stereo systems. We've had a lot of complaints that people using personal stereos on trains can be heard up to three coaches away - it's the drums that cause the trouble, usually - so I go on trains to see if our new, improved stereo system can be heard by other passengers. What? Yes, it can actually. But we've also discovered that passengers never complain at the time, so we're going ahead and making it anyway."

Malcolm Snuggs: "I'm a mole in the Foreign Office. I generally do most of my handling over of secrets to the Russians on BR trains. Why? Beats me. My theory is that the Russians are great drinkers and they love the fact that British rail buffet bars can be open for vodka even outside licensing hours."

Iris Penny: "I'm testing British Rail catering for Egon Ronay. We were at our wit's end for our next guide, actually - we'd done stations and service areas and hospitals and there didn't seem much left to test. Then we had the brainwave - train buffets! Bit useless, actually, as it's always a different buffet and staff every day, so a guide wouldn't help you much, but it's great fun. Have a Scotch egg!"

Martin Taplow: "I'm a BBC researcher doing research for a new series called *The Steps of Paul Theroux*. Beryl Bainbridge and J. B. Priestley. It's going to be terrific if we can get the right presenter, but unfortunately the few people who haven't done this sort of programme have all refused. Don't suppose you'd like to? No? Oh, well."

Ian Sproat: "I'm Ian Sproat and I'm looking for a constituency to represent in Parliament. I'm doing a lot of travelling at the moment."

Keith Wilbershaw: "That's not my name, actually. I'd rather not give my real name as I haven't paid for a ticket. No, I'm in no danger of being caught. Yes, of course I'll tell you. You buy a British Rail uniform and a signal lamp, and sit there looking as if you're driving to work. The only embarrassing moment I ever had was when the driver of a train I was on, fell ill, and the guard asked me to drive the train instead. I bluffed my way through all right, but we did miss out one or two stations before I spotted where the brakes were."

Matthew Sprake: "I am a director of a computer software company operating between Bristol and London, and this seat is my registered business office. That means I can claim my rail fare against tax. Also - and this is the beauty of it - I can claim all the fuel used by the engine as a legitimate business expense. We haven't paid any tax for three years."

Jimmy Savile: "Hi gals and guys, Jimmy Savile here, travelling by train because that's the only way to travel, believe me, especially if you're Jimmy Savile and you have a little card saying 'This is Jimmy Savile OBE, he can travel anywhere free'; oh yes, it makes a lot of sense."

## Plantation planning

How was it that slaves in the United States reproduced themselves demographically while slaves elsewhere generally failed to do so? John Campbell, of the University of Minnesota, writing in this month's *Journal of Interdisciplinary History*, answers the question with evidence from a Georgia cotton plantation that the work was organized by the plantation owner to allow sufficient flexibility for pregnant and nursing slaves to undertake lighter duties at such times in the interests of a more efficient, productive and numerous labour force.

Campbell's work is part of the recent interest in the actual experience of enslavement in America. Books like Eugene Genovese's *Roll, Jordan, Roll: The World the Slaves Made*, William Freehling's *Slavery and Freedom*, Herbert Gutman's *The Black Family and John Blassingame's The Slave Community*, all examine the society from which the slaves came and the sustenance and transmission of their traditions and culture.

## Indian country

In history as well as on the screen, the American Indian experience has largely been confined to the American west - even when decades of romanticism over the "cowboys"

war against the Indian was finally superseded by a growing interest in the Indian side. Now historians are starting to revive the Indian experience in the eastern United States; where Pocahontas and Powhatan are as much part of the founding of Virginia as John Smith and the early history of New York was made as much by the Indians as by its European settlers.

In the just published second volume of his massive series of *Anglo-Indian relations in colonial times*, The Ambiguous Iroquois, The Covenant Chain Confederation of Indian Tribes with its Beginnings to the Lancaster Treaty of 1764, Francis Jennings emphasizes the cooperation as much as the conflict which marked the first hundred years of colonial experience. Daniel K. Richter, writing in the *William and Mary Quarterly*, shakes the Iroquois Confederacy (composed of the Seneca, Cayuga, Onondaga, Oneida and Mohawk) from their shroud of bloodthirsty savages who wielded tomahawks and waged war for sheer sport, and suggests that they went to war for the same sort of social demands and disputes



## FINDINGS

A series reporting on research: AMERICAN HISTORY

with their neighbours as did countless European states, while George Fredrickson dispels the myth of the "empty lands" of America in *White Supremacy: A Comparative Study in American and South African History*.

## Poverty guide

On 87 West 133rd Street, Harlem, stood a block of apartments known as "coastal flats", so called because the blacks who lived in them, forced to pay high rents, were left with insufficient money for food. This is noted in an unusual guidebook to New York, published in 1939, produced by employees of the Federal Writers' Project, established in 1935 by Roosevelt's "New Deal" package to provide work for writers and artists. The guide attempted to "indicate the human character of the city, to point out the evidence of achievements and shortcomings, urban glamour as well as urban sordidness". It has proved of such interest that not only has it been reprinted in facsimile but also a group of historians are researching a guide to New York in the 1980s using the same approaches.

**French connexion**  
Why there was no socialist party in the United States is a perennial question that some American social historians are trying to redefine. Sean Wilentz and Gary Gerstle, of Princeton University, and Mike Merrill in his study of the pre-revolution system of a barter economy, are tracing what they identify as an indigenous strand of American radicalism. Republicanism, they argue, was not always the capitalistic, opportunity-orientated ethos of the pioneer, but to many immigrants in the nineteenth century it was overlaid with the French republican attributes of communality and collectivism. It was this tradition that was to



Negroes from the south with Lincoln's emancipation proclamation in 1863

activate trade unionism in America in the 1930s.

## Out of bondage

The Freedom Project at the University of Maryland is documenting the black experience from the civil war to the emancipation of slaves, when three million people in bondage were suddenly free and came on to the land and labour market. It was the most dramatic social upheaval of the nineteenth century and, using the letters slaves wrote to the government and President and the records of the Freedmen's Bureau - an agency set up in the 1860s to help and advise freed slaves - Ira Berlin, director of the project, has already produced one book *Freedom: The Black Military Experience* which reconstructs in their own words the ex-slaves' experience of trying to reunite their families and establish themselves on an independent basis

## Fifth freedom

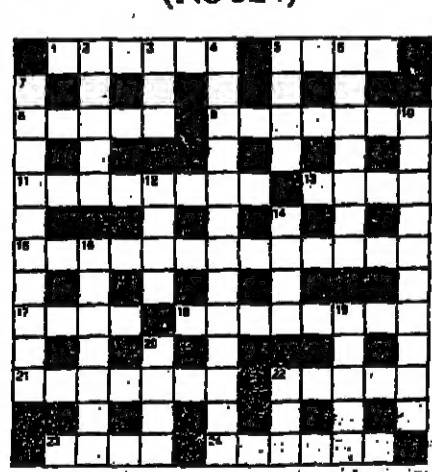
In 1941, Roosevelt proclaimed that America must fight for her "four freedoms" of religion and speech, from want and fear. Three years later, in a massive advertising campaign, the Hoover vacuum cleaner company urged that the fifth freedom is "freedom of choice" - of consumer goods. The study of consumerism is far advanced in the US starting in the 1890s with Edward Bellamy's *Looking Backwards* and Thorstein Veblen's *Theory of the Leisure Class*. Social observers are all agreed on the importance of consumption in twentieth-century American culture, but historians have begun to ask basic questions about what exactly is a consumer culture

## Legal rights

History-by-statute is big in the US. This month a resolution in Congress introduced by Senator Orrin Hatch and Representative Barbara Boxer, established for the third year running March as Women's History Month and celebrates women's part in every major movement for progressive social change in the USA. A Bill has been introduced into Congress for the preservation of the landscapes of Frederick Law Olmsted (above left) the architect of New York's Central Park.

Juliet Gardner

## CONCISE CROSSWORD (No 324)



**ACROSS**  
1 Gambler (6)  
5 Fruit dish (4)  
8 Precise (5)  
9 Bitious Indian disease (7)  
11 Undivided office (4,4)  
13 Droop (4)  
15 112 pounds (13)  
17 Courage (4)  
18 Illicit (8)  
21 Speaker's crate (7)  
22 Purify (5)  
23 Rush away (4)  
24 Sibling's son (6)

**DOWN**  
2 Custom (5)  
3 Toddler (3)  
4 37th US President (7,3,5)  
6 Car trunk (4)  
7 Gullet (10)  
10 Cash machine (10)  
12 Pigment (4)  
14 6th Greek letter (4)  
16 Women's basketball (7)  
19 Power (5)  
20 Capable (4)  
22 Soda drink (5)

**SOLUTION TO No 323**  
ACROSS: 1 Coset 4 Ellipse 8 Lotto 9 In vitro 10 Pedigree 11 Anti 13 White collar 17 Ugly 18 Egomania 21 Basil 22 Ionic 23 Baited 24 Sheds  
DOWN: 1 Caliph 2 Sated 3 Thoughts 4 Eminence 5 grise 5 Live 6 Petunia 7 Exotic 12 Olympics 14 Helicat 15 Hubbard 16 Casus 19 Nounce 20 Aims

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## FASHION by Suzy Menkes

## THE MIGHTY MILLINERS

Portrait photographs by Suresh Karadia



John Boyd: royal toques, veils and bows, turbans and fez. From 91 Walton Street, Chelsea

The Easter Bonnet is no longer on parade. But a combination of street and royal style have made London the hat capital of the fashion world.

Last month it was hats off in Paris to exuberant, egg-headed Stephen Jones, a young British milliner who has now been taken up by directional French designers Jean-Paul Gaultier and Thierry Mugler. Stephen Jones put the fez back into hats, making the North African shape a motif in the pop world and a badge of style for the streetwise.

This season his most dramatic hats follow the shapes of 1950's cars and the eastern fez and turbans come up in chintz. Stephen Jones, who says that he likes to make "light-hearted hats", trained at the couture house Lachasse before setting up his Soho boudoir.

Last week, John Boyd, the gentle, self-effacing milliner to the Princess of Wales, unveiled the silk organza, the cria and the net of his new collection. The Queen Mary toque and a splendid corkscrew spiral sprouting from the

crown. Next season he will be producing for the first time a wholesale collection that will put Princess Diana's perky felts and straws in the shops.

The white satin boater, decorated with a ruff of black and white net, an Eastern Promise black pillbox dangling with Roman coins and an Arabic cowl in silver lamé will be exclusively for clients at his Chelsea shop.

London's mightiest milliners have traditionally been helped by a royal connection, for hats are society's soufflés: delicious concoctions served up at the best occasions.

Modern hats are fun - witty champagne saucer cocktail hats, high crowned chimney pots of Hobo-style, mannish felts for rainy days. This season's hats have in common sculptural moulding, small brims, very shallow or, by contrast, very deep crowns, and an emphasis on texture.

The many important hatters working out of London share a belief in craft as well as creation. They all have a background and training that makes the most frivolous hat a serious business.



Stephen Jones and his sculptural hat inspired by 1950's car styling. From 34 Lexington Street, W1. Photograph: Peter Aschworth

## GRAHAM SMITH



Three and half million heads each year come under the control of Graham Smith. He is design director of Kangol and his imaginative, fashion-conscious hats (pith helmets and textured rags this season) are mass market leaders. But the elegant, elongated Graham Smith also designs for Jean Muir and makes for Harrods the haute couture creations of the legendary Paulette of Paris. He believes that hats must reflect fashion in clothes, which is where he started out at the Royal College of Art and in his early career with Lanvin in Paris and Michael in London. He worked for 14 years from his own studio and can now back in the knowledge that the Basque beret he made for Kangol is a world-wide best seller.



Graham Smith for Kangol: straw pith helmet with twisted mesh trimming on the current safari fashion trail £125 from Harvey Nichols, Knightsbridge, SW1 and Melita of Cheltenham. Textured weave suit by George Reeb £136 from Viva, Golders Green, September 3, Birmingham. Cream silk blouse from Viva. Jungle head necklace from Fenwick of Bond Street. Hair by Shaun at Daniel Galvin. Make-up by Cheryl for Revlon using their Blonde collection. Photograph: Robert Mackintosh.

September 3, Birmingham. Cream silk blouse from Viva. Jungle head necklace from Fenwick of Bond Street. Hair by Shaun at Daniel Galvin. Make-up by Cheryl for Revlon using their Blonde collection. Photograph: Robert Mackintosh.

## FREDERICK FOX



"You can't hide anything on a tailored hat," says Frederick Fox, milliner to the Queen and to the society which wears the perfectly-made couture creation. Although he always has tendrils of trummings, Freddie Fox says that this is a season for starker lines, for swathing brims

and for strong, simple colours like black and white, cobalt blue and white. ("White is a difficult colour," he says. "Women don't always realise that a colour they can wear on the body they can't get away with at the face.") The fabric hat is winning by a short head over straw for race-goers.

\*Frederick Fox by appointment at 87/91 New Bond Street or from 169 Sloane Street SW1.

## BERNSTOCK &amp; SPIERS

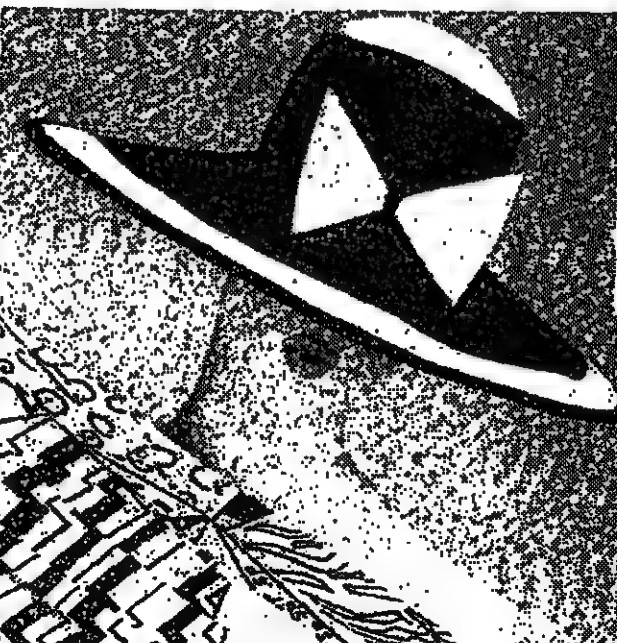


"All our hats are slightly odd," Paul Bernstock says of the colourful crownless brims, eye-catching mixtures of colour and texture and pull-on tiffers that crumple the shape of the conventional hat. Thelma Spiers is the other half of a

partnership that started at Middlesex Poly and launched the funky hat as young London style. They make for themselves, sell to Whistles and Joseph Tricot, who currently stock a version of Thelma's wrap cotton hat (left) fastened

with a kilt pin at the crown. Paul (right) wears a cotton knit cap with flock motif. Bernstock and Spiers now make other original accessories after the hats. But their strength, Paul says, is making wearable, everyday hats.

## DAVID SHILLING



"My prime passion is the head and the hat, but I am actually a designer," David Shilling says of his first capsule collection of dresses. The sculptural lines he likes for his hats (conical straw hand-painted with fluorescent colours) are echoed in his five silk dresses (from £325) and especially in his bold black and white print. The hats include a versatile double-brim straw whose three component parts can be worn in different ways, 1920's cloches, and a coat-hanger hat in homage to the surrealists. Another dash of wit is his bow-tie hat, chic in black straw, shaped into a wing collar at the front.

\*Hat and silk print from David Shilling, 44 Chiltern Street W.1. Make-up: Blonde by Revlon. Photograph: Alistair Hughes.

## Clocks of timeless artistry

The great - and controversial - Easter Egg Hunt is officially over. With a nice sense of paschal timing, the last of the 12 caskets was unearthed on Maunday Thursday to the relief of conservationists and the sponsors, Cadbury's Chocolate.

The stubby nursery-rhyme figures, the licking red enamel flames and the gold streamers of wind blowing across the fairy-tale eggs, have inspired their makers, Garrards, to further flights of fancy.

Silversmith Alec Styles laid the gold and enamel eggs. But the Crown Jeweller himself, William Summers, produced the musical minia-



tures that are giving a Fabergé feel to the Regent Street shop. A graceful gold grand piano, with elaborate enamel floral decorations, lifts its lid to show an eight-day clock. Inspired, perhaps, by the curves of a Fabergé terrestrial globe in the royal collection at Sandringham, Mr Summers has now made a gold kettle drum, complete with jewelled drumsticks. The skin swivels to reveal a gleaming, red enamel clock-face.

"It is tremendous fun for us to have a chance to make something super and to stretch the craftsmen to their limits", Mr Summers says. "In the old days, we had private patrons. Now we have heads of businesses."

The musical miniatures, which also include a violin, an enamel and diamond military drum, and a harp, have not yet found an orchestral (or royal) patron. They are on sale to any collector with thousands to spare.

It might seem difficult to compete with the ruby-eyed clockwork Fabergé elephant that the Royal Family gave to George V in 1929 as the most exquisite of adult playthings. But at least the Garrards goodies tell the time. The miniatures are part of a growing collection of objects d'art on sale alongside the magnificent jewelry.

## Angela Gore



## Artist's Palette

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Charles of the Ritz



The new president of the American Trust Company, who has been elected to the office, is Mr. J. H. C. [illegible] of New York. He is a member of the board of directors of the company, and has been in the service of the company for many years. He is a graduate of the University of the City of New York, and has been a member of the bar since 1900. He is also a member of the American Trust Company, and has been a member of the board of directors since 1910. He is a very capable and experienced man, and is well qualified to fill the office of president of the company.





P.O. Box 7, 200 Gray's Inn Road, London WC1X 8EZ. Telephone: 01-837 1234

# A HEAD OF STEAM

After the almost too good to be true Easter weather it is back to business today in the Nottinghamshire coalfield and in London S.W.1. In St James's Square the blue hangings still occlude the scene, but at least there is now a clear and reasonably well assured denouement. Not so in Nottinghamshire or in the coalfields generally.

The delegate conference of the National Union of Mine-workers on Maundy Thursday was a climax of sorts in the course of the dispute. It marked the conclusion of a successful procedural manoeuvre by Mr Scargill and those who think with him on the executive. It has been their aim to bring about a national strike without recourse to a national ballot; and they have managed to change the rules in the process so that when it does suit them to ballot the membership a simple majority in favour of a strike will do. All those miners who believed, and sometimes boasted, that they had a union in which there could be no national strike without the balloted endorsement of the membership as a whole are shown to have deceived themselves or to have been deceived.

The rolling strike has rolled. Those who calculated that it would be checked by the moderate coalfields, which could force a ballot, which would go against a strike, were mistaken. Mr Scargill has proved the better judge and manipulator of the situation.

But the first chapter did not quite end with the Easter break.

Nottinghamshire still has to be whipped into line. The area's determination to declare its own mind and act upon it is bound to be affected by the latest developments. But until it succumbs to pressure, the dispute remains most conspicuously one between mine and miner, and cannot blossom into one between the NUM and the coal board or, as Mr Scargill would prefer, between the NUM (as spearhead of the working class) and the Thatcher government. And so long as the NUM cannot resolve its own differences it cannot expect much in the way of support from other unions, even supposing they have much to offer at any stage.

There is now a head of steam in the strike surprisingly strong for what looks like a natural loser. The season of the year is against it, the state of the market in fuels is against it, the state of coal stocks, the promise of no enforced redundancy, the tempting terms for voluntary redundancy, the mortgage culture, economic common sense, all are against it.

The pace of intended pit closure is no greater than it has been when Mr Scargill has twice tried and failed to get the miners on the march. Yet the strike gathers strength. It cannot all be because of the personality of Mr Ian MacGregor and the boardroom bleakness with which he puts across his salutary message, echoing the conviction that there is no alternative. Besides, he has begun, if it is not too late, to put less emphasis on closure

and contraction and more on high wages in the high productivity industry that could follow.

One has to look a little further to see what gives so unpromising a strike its buoyancy. One element is the belief that the government is assailing the power of the trade unions - a true belief in so far as the Government is assailing the abuse of that power. Here perhaps is ground on which to stand and fight, ground occupied by a heavily unionized and stubbornly defensive group of manual workers.

One may also look towards the emergence of semi-permanent mass unemployment and the uncanny social tranquillity that so far accompanies it. It lies heavily on some of the regions where coal mining is concentrated. The outlook for the young especially is such as to blight many hopes of work, status, and the good things of the life of television. In Mr Scargill they have an authentic radical rant to stir hope and breathe defiance into those who see nothing to gain in things as they are and nothing to lose in things as they might be.

These adventitious ingredients to the dispute in the coalfields will affect its temper and perhaps its duration. They require from the Government political finesse on top of the resolution ministers may be expected to show on the main issue.

# SLOW ROUTE TO CHINA

When President Reagan was elected he would probably have brushed aside predictions that he would visit China four years later. Yet here he is, setting off on a slow journey to arrive there on Thursday. The change has been gradual. He campaigned on a policy that threatened to upset the carefully balanced relationship with China constructed by his predecessors. They had found that treating Taiwan as China had become increasingly unreal in terms of power politics, no matter how attractive by some moral criteria. Dr Kissinger's secret visit led to the Shanghai communiqué of 1973 and eventually to the establishment of full diplomatic relations in 1979. The essence of the arrangement was an agreement to disagree over the status of Taiwan.

Mr Reagan began his presidency by putting the clock into reverse, building up relations with Taiwan through arms sales and other signs of favour, arguing that it was American policy to be true to friends and hostile to communism. This simple view has since been modified. He has been unable to ignore the huge, looming presence of China, which seems bound to be one of the major economic (and maybe military) powers of the next century and is meanwhile a useful counterweight to the Soviet Union in the Far East. American arms sales to Taiwan have been curbed, and exports of technology to China have been eased. A degree of balance has been restored.

Yet there is still uncertainty and caution in the American

view of China. In the 1970s it was fashionable to talk about playing the "China card" against the Soviet Union. The Chinese encouraged the idea by keeping up a continuous drumbeat of invective against the Soviet Union, which in turn showed every sign of fearing the emergence of a Sino-American alliance against it. This was one of the factors behind Soviet interest in detente with the United States. And China, of course, denounced detente with the same intemperance that it denounced the Soviet Union.

The death of Mao Tse-tung in 1976 and the consolidation of the Deng Xiaoping leadership in 1979 brought calmer attitudes all round. Ideological denunciation of the Soviet Union diminished, since China was embarking on experiments far more "revisionist" than those it had earlier condemned in the Soviet Union. Talks of "normalizing" relations began in 1979, only to be interrupted by the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan, which was strongly denounced by China. Within a couple of years however there was movement again, and in 1982 the Chinese sent their Foreign Minister to Mr Brezhnev's funeral, only to dismiss him when he returned to Peking. Polemics between the two countries flared up again in 1983.

One reason for China's tentative but unsteady interest in improved relations was fear that the United States was swinging back to Taiwan. Equally, one factor in the change in Mr Reagan's attitude was fear that China and the Soviet Union

would patch up their differences. However, there are other considerations at work. China is driving into some very ambitious experiments in economic modernization. It can do without expensive confrontations with the Soviet Union. It needs Soviet trade, and it needs to keep down its defence spending. Yet mutual suspicion still dictates a fairly cool and formal relationship.

This means that it will not wish to be a card in American relations with Moscow. Yet it very badly needs American technology, trade, and other forms of assistance. The main Chinese interest, therefore, must be to maintain reasonably calm and constructive relations with both super powers, while not becoming too dependent on either or so intimate with one as to arouse the suspicion of the other.

This ought to suit the West reasonably well. A high level of tension between China and the Soviet Union, though it might seem tactically useful to the West in the short term, works against stability. Equally, a total rapprochement would produce a formidable coalition against the West. The present situation therefore gives the United States the opportunity to act as a stabilizing influence on both powers since both need American trade and each wishes to prevent the other getting too close to Washington. President Reagan could seize this opportunity and set the guidelines for an important period in American diplomacy.

# A MUZZLE FOR NIGERIA

The new press law promulgated by the Nigerian military government last week is an assault upon the freedom of journalists. It is particularly deplorable in Nigeria because a country with an autocratic military regime needs a free press to administer some sort of checks and balances, and because there is a tradition of freedom of the press in Nigeria: the country has the most varied, lively and independent newspapers in the continent.

The new decree creates the offence of inaccurate reporting and allows for trial by a special tribunal of three military officers under the chairmanship of a judge. The onus of proof will be on the defendant. The tribunal will be able to impose two years' imprisonment on a journalist or a fine of about £10,000 on a publishing organization. The Government will also have the power to shut newspapers or radio stations for a year. No appeal will be allowed.

Almost from the time when it seized power on December 31 last year General Buhari's Government has let its im-

patience with the press be known. Apart from making acid public comments, the regime has in detention two well-known commentators, Tai Solarin and Haroun Adamu, whose main offence is thought to be the outspoken newspaper columns they have written. More recently, the diplomatic correspondent and the assistant news editor of one of the more responsible and thoughtful of the Lagos newspapers, the *Guardian*, have been detained: their offence stems from the leaked publication in the newspaper of diplomatic appointments (no considerations of national security were involved).

General Buhari has said that this sort of law is necessary to protect government men from slanderous accusations and that discipline and responsibility are as necessary to the press as freedom. In fact, the Government already has the means to correct any inaccuracy it may detect since what its senior men say is invariably reported, and an operative Nigerian law of

libel is there to help those damaged by untruths.

What the new law will do is to discourage the publication of stories embarrassing to the government. The mistake General Buhari makes is in thinking that unpublished stories die: in fact they continue to circulate as rumour, gathering momentum. A secondary mistake is in thinking that sitting on the safety valve makes for safety.

Nigerian journalists treasure the words of a previous military ruler, General Yakubu Gowon. Asked in 1967 what he was going to do about the hostile press he was receiving, he said: "I cannot tell them what to do since we do not dictate policy to any press here. They have been independent since they ought to be. The press has to tell the truth, to be objective and honest so that people can rely on what they print. They should tell us off when they feel we are wrong and commend when they feel it is worthwhile. We can take it." General Buhari should be able to take it too.

Some trustees of charitable funds have a policy not to invest in companies whose businesses are substantially involved in alcohol, armaments, gambling, tobacco or repressive regimes. They do not wish to receive profits earned by exploiting or causing suffering to "their neighbours". This still leaves a wide range of companies in which to invest.

In fact trustees, who consider it is morally wrong to invest in a country which denies the vote to four fifths of the population, may also consider

that it is prudent not to invest in such a country because in the long term there is likely to be social unrest in that country until the majority are able to vote.

If the law said that a trustee may not act in accordance with his or her conscience, then any trustee who is worthy to be trusted would have to resign.

Yours faithfully,  
R. J. M. CAFFYN,  
Field House,  
Old Willington Road,  
Priston, Eastbourne, East Sussex.

# LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

## An American lesson in urban renewal

From Mr Michael Brophy

Sir, On the day I returned from a visit as part of a delegation from the London Enterprise Agency to the City Partnership of New York, I learned with horror of the intended closure of a part of the Manchester Ship Canal.

Our delegation visited and discussed urban renewal and preservation projects. The difference between what has not been done in the port of Manchester and what has been done in South Street Seaport, New York, is "profit".

South Street Seaport, on the lower tip of Manhattan, is a thriving multi-million-dollar enterprise making money (although it is ultimately controlled by a not-for-profit foundation, which itself owns and runs the seafaring and port museum).

A mixture of commercial interests mingle in a variety of complex financial relationships: these include retailing, wholesaling (the equivalent of Billingsgate is there and it never had to move) and also housing developments, the majority of which involve the original residents. Streets, the famous fish-food restaurant, is once again a gold mine, I am glad to be able to report!

The basic trick is as follows. A development corporation approaches the City of New York (or vice-versa) with a proposal to renew an area of often gross, even dangerous, urban decay. If city planners agree the desirability and priority of the project they will (normally) apply for a federal loan at no interest and of a limited size, ie, never more than 10 per cent of the capital required.

The city itself will then sell bonds, which it guarantees, to banks and other sources of private capital. At this point a massive and safe capital engine is available for a project

which will be large enough to transform not only the land itself but also the blighted hinterland around it.

The commercial developer or developers can now sense the profit possible if normal commercial standards of planning and delivery are observed. Retailers, restaurants, museums, galleries and the like compete to get into the area. Tourism also takes off, and so do the feeder transport links.

Your readers might say, "What's new? We have done this sort of thing here." What is different in the United States is the ready acceptance of public-private partnership financing in big social schemes than is sometimes to be found in Britain. The results here are often sterile and not self-supporting.

I would make a plea with whoever is responsible for the Manchester Ship Canal decision to do two things: first, to arrange a visit for themselves and their advisers to Boston, Baltimore and New York (to include the New York Port Authority, the City Partnership and also one or two of the big responsible private development corporations like Rouse Corporation).

Second, when they return home, to hold a working conference of our own companies, like Trafalgar, Taylor Woodrow, etc, and with the leading financial institutions. They should then sell central Government a total package it will find hard to refuse.

I believe the Manchester Ship Canal is a profit resource we cannot afford to lose. There are many others.

Yours faithfully,  
MICHAEL BROPHY, Director,  
Charities Aid Foundation,  
48 Pembury Road,  
Tonbridge, Kent.

## Tax framework for art

From Mr Denis Mahon, FBA

Sir, May I add a factual footnote to Geraldine Norman's most welcome call for tax changes in order to retain our cultural inheritance (feature, April 14)?

She refers to a tax "concession" on works of art owned by the nation in discharge of capital transfer tax liabilities as "significant" in that it keeps "a certain number of treasures out of the export queue". But I fear that its significance within the context of the situation so well set out in Mrs Norman's article is minimal.

A very recent parliamentary answer (April 6) gave the official total of tax debts thus settled in kind during the whole of the past financial year as £815,346.61. This sum covered (apart from two groups of papers, and one of chateaux in a historic house) 32 items, of which 30 were paintings. But as those familiar with saleroom reports will know, individual auction sales of works of art have to be very routine these days to raise a total of less than £1m. It follows that, welcome though the accepted items were, they were hardly of the stature to be relevant to the problem.

The reason why is, of course, that the terms for ceding works of art to the nation in settlement of tax debts are not attractive enough. The system is that, although an object thus surrendered is by statute itself exempted from tax, the Treasury appropriates to itself through administrative action 75 per cent of the benefit of the tax exemption in the process of calculating the amount to be discharged by its acceptance.

This proportion, fixed over a quarter of a century ago, was judged far too high by the recent Commons select committee, which in effect pressed that it should be reduced to 25 per cent. Despite the fact that the Museums and Galleries Commission made a very moderate recommendation of a fifty-fifty division of the benefit of the statutory tax exemption (that is, an equal inducement to both sides) the Government persisted in declining to make any change whatsoever.

Alas, time is likely to demonstrate the shortsighted unwisdom of this.

Yours faithfully,  
DENIS MAHON,  
33 Cadogan Square, SW1,  
April 14.

## Conflict in Sahara

From Mr Colin Mace and others

Sir, A team from the Oxford University Third World First group has just returned from the Sahrawi refugee camps in Western Algeria. We were the warmly received guests of these people, who were forced from the Western Sahara by Moroccan troops and air raids in 1976.

In 1975 the International Court of Justice ruled in favour of the rights of the Sahrawi to self-determination, as did the UN in 1981 and 1982. Since the birth of the Saharawi Arab Democratic Republic in 1976 it has been recognised by over 30 countries, none of which are from the West.

During our visit we found that basic supplies provided by the Algerian Red Crescent were adequate. These 150,000 refugees, because of the prevailing conditions, are totally reliant on external aid; however, they are responsible for the distribution of supplies and all camp administration. It is well organised and efficient.

The biggest hardship for the Sahrawi is living in exile in a barren desert. They wait, hopeful and resolute, for the day when a political settlement will enable them to return home. One Sahrawi elder asked us pointedly: "Does the UN have any power to help oppressed nations?"

The West must take positive steps to end this conflict. Britain should

apply diplomatic and political pressure on Morocco to withdraw its troops. We should recognise the SADR and condemn King Hassan's action, rather than ignoring or tacitly supporting it. The time for serious consideration of this problem is long overdue.

Yours faithfully,  
COLIN MACE,  
R. BLACK,  
HEFFI FELLOWS,  
L. CRAIG,  
KITTY CARRICK,  
As from Exeter College, Oxford.

## Landscaping and BR

From Mr R. Gartside

Sir, Major Philip Banbury suggests (April 16) that the reason why BR do not landscape their lines is that only the engine driver can see the view forwards from the train.

Why should this invidious distinction exist? In Italy there are the most splendid trains in which the driver sits above the passengers in the front coaches and thus have an unimpeded forward view. Supplements are charged and much revenue raised since there is fierce competition for these forward seats in which everyone can play engine drivers.

Is it, perhaps, that BR lack forward vision? The *Yours faithfully*, R. GARTSIDE, Compton House, Llanberis, Gwynedd, April 16.

His implication is that the anti-racist movement serves Soviet interests. A few years ago such a suggestion would have been found, not in the columns of *The Times*, but in the propaganda papers of the extreme right.

A more appropriate question might be: whose interests do Dr Scruton's articles serve? For, in his own words, "it is surely testimony to the changed climate of taste" that they should appear in *The Times* at all.

Yours faithfully,  
KENNETH LEECH,  
General Synod of the Church of England,  
Board for Social Responsibility,  
Church House,  
Dean's Yard, SW1,  
April 4.

## Hopeful outlook for film-making

From Mr Adrian Scrope

Sir, David Hewson should know better than to call for embalming fluid for the British film industry (*The Times* April 16). The victim is looking so healthy. Over the past 30 years the film industry has had its obituary written many times, but rumours of its death have always been exaggerated.

It is equally fallacious to suggest that capital allowances have been solely responsible for the resurgence of the film industry over the past five years. That would be to deny the renowned excellence of the craft workers in this country and the competitive edge given by a favourable rate of exchange which has moved more than 35 per cent in Britain's favour while capital allowances have been operating.

Indeed, it would be an interesting calculation to establish who has benefited the most from capital allowances. Certainly the banks have been able to defer substantial amounts of corporation tax by leasing "British" films, but I suspect the allowances have benefited American companies more than British production facilities and personnel. Of course it will be regrettable if the Salkind empire leaves our shores, but how many more "Superman" films can they possibly make?

The Government is phasing out capital allowances over two years and one is forced to ask how long it

takes to wean a baby, even a delicate and talented one. The reverse of the coin, conveniently forgotten by the harpers of doom, is that tax on profits is also coming down, for films as for every other type of industrial activity. That fact alone could make Britain a growing centre of production and distribution.

This Government's call to industry has been consistent. "Adapt, invent and be profitable or release talent and resources to new industries." It has encouraged risk-taking and the City financial institutions have responded well, as is evident from even a cursory examination of the consortia financing the hardware of the cable revolution.

The shift in tax incentives should lead to the creation of more film production funds, where the investors can spread their risks, look at a longer term strategy, and provide much more solid base for the financing of feature films and television production in this country.

Instead of crying wolf, yet again, the leaders of the British film industry should face up to the challenge of making more winners than losers. The rest will follow.

Yours faithfully,  
ADRIAN SCROPE,  
Deputy Chairman,  
Yellowbill Holdings Ltd.,  
11 Cross Keys Close, W1,  
April 16.

## Youth training cuts

From Mr Tony Baldry, MP for Banbury (Conservative)

Sir, Nicholas Hinton's letter concerning the Youth Training Scheme (April 11) requires qualification.

YTS is probably the most innovative training scheme ever to be introduced by any government in Western Europe. A firm commitment was given by the Government that there would be a training place available for every school leaver who wanted a place. By Christmas all 16-year-old school leavers who did want a place on the scheme had one.

The reason why fewer school leavers than anticipated entered YTS is, I suspect, because the MSC underestimated the degree to which young people this year would get jobs outside YTS.

Whilst it is important that a comprehensive survey is done on the first year's work of YTS, it really is premature to seek to assert that young people entering YTS are not staying the course. At any particular time you will find in the unemployment figures a number of unem-

ployed 16-year-olds, which leads some to assert that they have opted out of YTS, but again I suspect that many of these are in the process either of moving from one job to another or from one YTS scheme to another.

As to Mode B1 placements, the simple reality is that, at the moment, £70m is being spent, not on training but wasted on bricks and mortar, training no one. The number of B1 placements for 1984/85 will be 70,000, not 60,000 as stated by Mr Hinton, and, bearing in mind that, at the end of December, 1983, only 54,300 B1 places were occupied, one would think that a level of 70,000 places should be more than sufficient.

I am sure that the sponsors of Mode B1 schemes are making an invaluable contribution to YTS but, at the end of the day, what matters is youth training, not that YTS should indirectly subsidise various community organizations, as it can only be doing at present, with £70m being used up but training no one.

Yours faithfully,  
TONY BALDRY,  
House of Commons.

## The 'anti-racist lobby'

From the Reverend Kenneth Leech

Sir, Dr Scruton (feature, April 3) claims that the "anti-racist lobby" has failed to concern itself with antisemitism. This lobby is not defined and so it is impossible to prove or refute the point. But I think I know more about the anti-racist movement than Dr Scruton does and I would categorically state that very many of us have been expressing concern for years about the survival and resurgence of antisemitism.

That Dr Scruton also regards it as an evil is to his credit, though it would have been more encouraging had he made the connections between the evil he recognizes and the "artificially induced hysteria" which bores him.

Dr Scruton cannot resist the inevitable anti-Communist smear line. "I would not wish for one moment to suggest that left-wing rhetoric is controlled from Moscow. But..." If that is not what he wants to suggest, what is the point of the sentence?

His implication is that the anti-racist movement serves Soviet interests. A few years ago such a suggestion would have been found, not in the columns of *The Times*, but in the propaganda papers of the extreme right.

A more appropriate question might be: whose interests do Dr Scruton's articles serve? For, in his own words, "it is surely testimony to the changed climate of taste" that they should appear in *The Times* at all.

Yours faithfully,  
KENNETH LEECH,  
General Synod of the Church of England,  
Board for Social Responsibility,  
Church House,  
Dean's Yard, SW1,  
April 4.

## Words and worship

From the Reverend P. J. Ridley

Sir, Roger Scruton (April 10) concludes his piece about the conservation of Cranmer with the words, "the fate of Cranmer's liturgy is also the fate of the Anglican Church".

He is, of course, wildly wrong. Whole provinces of the Anglican Church worship by means of liturgy not written in English, let alone early Tudor English.

The reason why these provinces have furnished themselves with liturgies that can be readily understood by the people using them is quite simply that worship that is not understood and intelligently consented to by the worshipper is not worship at all; it is idolatry.

A sure test of liturgy these days is the choice made by young couples with regard to their wedding service. I have found that, given a completely free choice in the matter, these couples (who generally speaking represent that great mass of English people who seldom worship in church but are willing to be persuaded) tend now to choose to be married by the modern service, simply because the words make sense to them and they feel that they are taking part in a meaningful event instead of some distant ecclesiastical pantomime.

It is also true that very often, when the 1662 service is chosen, the

choice is made because the couple believe that parents or older guests would prefer the old service.

Of course there is a place for retention of the older forms of worship. But the kind of wholesale denigration of the new services indulged in by so many of its antagonists is harmful to the life of the Church of England and to many, many who are at present on the threshold of church membership.

Yours faithfully,  
PETER RIDLEY,  
Eynsham Vicarage,  
Oxford,  
April 10.

## Sale or return

From Mr Charles Elkan

Sir, Philip Howard (feature, April 18) is perhaps unaware that rain check has a second, more common, meaning in the US. If a supermarket or a department store advertises a special offer, but sells out before a customer asks for it, then the customer receives a voucher which allows him to buy the article at the special price when it next comes into stock, even after the special offer has expired.

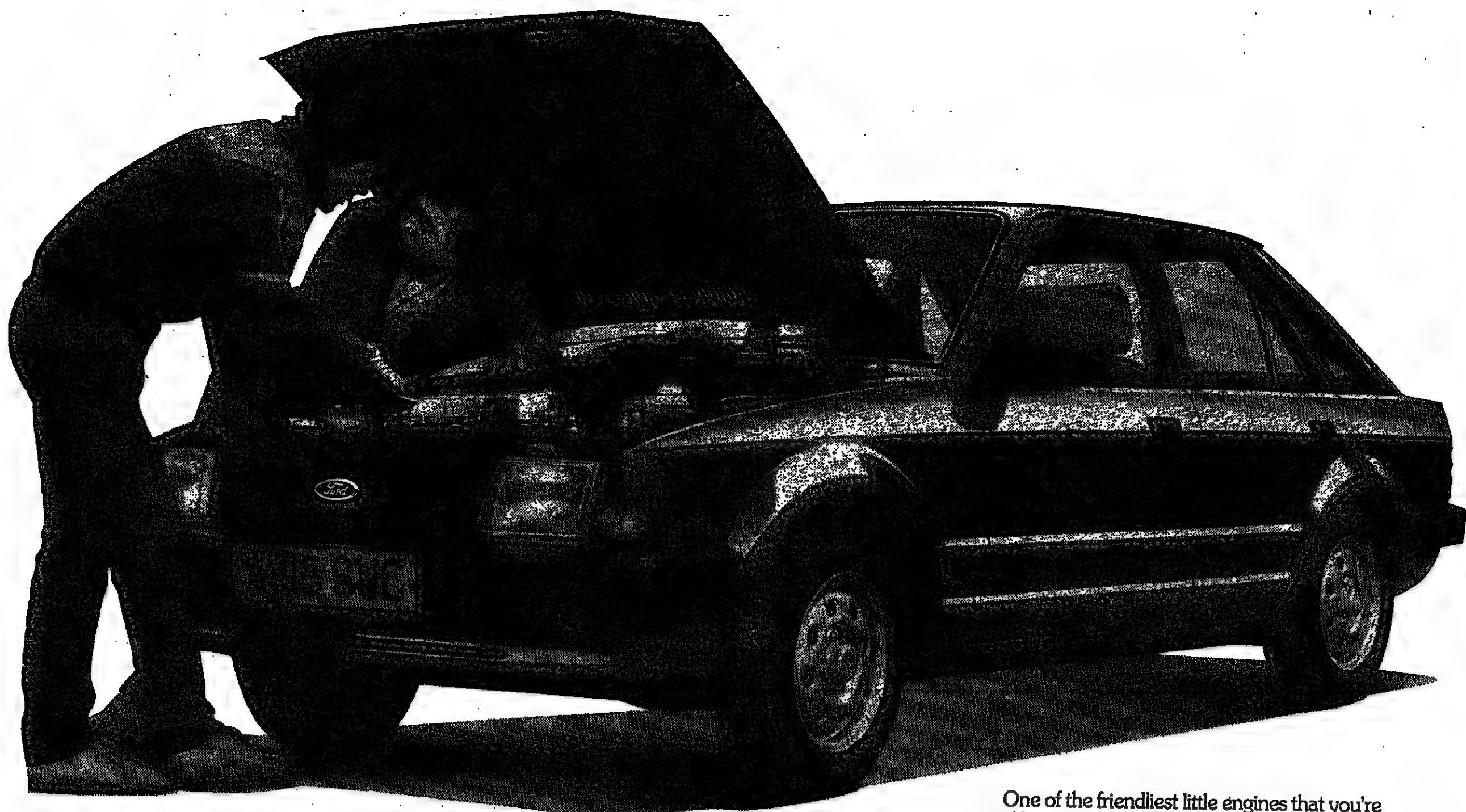
If only shops here issued rain checks.

Yours faithfully,  
CHARLES ELKAN,  
Fitzwilliam College,  
Cambridge,  
April 18.









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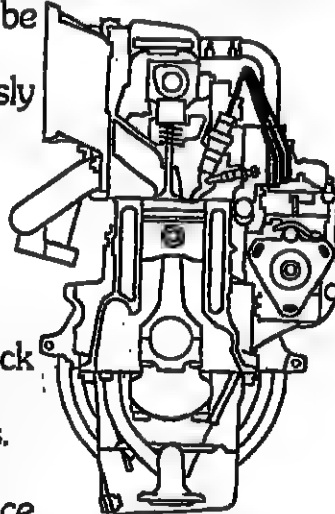
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## ● Chasing the keyboard crooks

## COMPUTER HORIZONS

Edited by MATTHEW MAY

## ● IBM meets Euro opposition: Page 17

Users of high technology equipment are now becoming acutely conscious of the environment in which they are working and the novel problems that result, say the ergonomic gurus of high technology at Loughborough University.

The Human Sciences and Advanced Technology Research Group (HUSAT) at the university is now into its fourteenth year and has noticed a marked change in people's awareness of the problems which can be generated in an office, bank or typing pool where typewriters have been replaced by word processors or where visual display terminals (VDTs) are now extensively used.

The problems now being identified by HUSAT are an indication of the spread of high technology in the office. Less than five years ago the technology had barely penetrated the minds of the company executives, never mind their offices. Today a complete strata of middle management has found itself almost redundant as their senior executives have access to more immediate and accurate information on company business by using their desk terminals. Reliance on the meticulously prepared management briefings is almost becoming a thing of the past.

## Terminal design

It is, however, the constant user and one who is in an environment where several units are in operation who could be the casualty. Prevention, not cure is the HUSAT message.

Lighting, heating, furniture, the positioning of terminals, the proximity of one user to another, the design of the terminals themselves and the ease by which the terminals can be used, are some of the fundamental questions researched at Loughborough. Short and long courses are run to preach the gospel. One short course of five days just completed at the

university, was attended by organization and method analysts (O&M), systems managers and similar people from the financial, industrial and publishing sectors of the economy. Curiously their problems are similar. The building block of the high technology environment is the terminal. HUSAT's inquiries to the medical profession on VDUs precipitated a curt response. The view was that the subject of VDUs (visual display units - the same as VDTs) was "emotive", and no useful purpose could be served by highlighting a health hazard which "doubtfully existed", by coupling it to an ergonomic problem which did need attention.

The ergonomic problem does need attention but so does any health hazard, no matter how infrequent its occurrence or minor the ailment. There are many such ailments which have been blamed on the electronic terminals, a number of which have had little foundation. They have however been worthy of examination by the Health and Safety Executive, which made a specific study of the problems and printed guidelines on the technology.

It concluded: "In the majority of applications, the introduction of VDUs has proved to be successful and indeed beneficial from the point of view of the operators well-being and satisfaction. In some instances, however, users have complained of a variety of bodily symptoms which appeared to be associated with VDU operation. These complaints have been largely related to soreness of the

# Could the typing pool damage your health?

eyes, discomfort in the head, neck and limbs and the feelings of mental tiredness.

The executive investigated the areas which had been highlighted as potential sources of hazard. These were effects from radiation, epileptogenic effects, facial dermatitis and symptoms to postural and visual fatigue.

The knowledge of ill-effects in some areas is still scanty since the science is virtually in its infancy. The VDUs use

for continuous exposure must not be exceeded.

However it does concede that: "The stringent international occupational standards from continuous exposure do not claim to protect 100 per cent of the work force".

The executive also investigated photosensitive epilepsy and facial dermatitis occurrences in relation to VDU operators. It rules out the possibility that the terminals could cause epilepsy but warns that such seizures can be induced in sufferers through prolonged exposure to a flickering light source. This photosensitive epilepsy occurs in only 1:50,000-1:100,000 of the population and usually in the age range of 10 to 14 years old. The incidence is therefore "extremely low", concludes the executive although a large screen, bright text, and prolonged viewing at close range "may increase the risk of a seizure in those individuals who are known to be, or may be, photosensitive, relative to the epileptogenic effects of a television screen."

The planned environment HUSAT, the H & S E and the Chartered Institution of Building Services (CIBS) agree, is vital to efficient use of high technology equipment. CIBS, which was formed in 1976 merging a number of older institutions in building engineering, has studied the subject of VDUs. The institution has published its guidelines on the positioning of the electronic units in offices.

While conceding that some aspects of environment may be deficient and result in eye discomfort, double

## THE WEEK

By Bill Johnstone

the same technology as adopted by a television receiver. An electron beam is projected at high voltage on to the inside of the screen coated with fluorescent material. The electrons in an ordered fashion react with the coating and convert its energy into light. That conversion is not always as efficient as might be desired and unwanted radiation results from the electron collision and internal electronic components in the VDU. According to the H & S E past concern has focused upon X-ray emission from the electronic tube and internal circuits but more recently interest has widened to include the whole of the electro-magnetic spectrum including radio-frequency (RF), microwave and ultraviolet radiation. The executive concludes that the national and international limits set

vision and even headaches, "there is no simple link between the occurrences of a specific symptom and the deficiencies of the visual environment". It is that uncertainty that is making some users fearful.

For the machine to operate efficiently, the environment in which the terminals are placed must be monitored and controlled to a far higher tolerance than was ever expected in the old office surroundings. Electronic terminals emit heat and as a consequence raise the temperature of their immediate environment, which, if not properly air-conditioned can make the user extremely uncomfortable if not drowsy.

## Uncertain science

The correct balance can be quite difficult to obtain as HUSAT is discovering with the frequent inquiries it is currently receiving to advise on improving systems which have not performed to expectation.

That sensitivity is highlighted in the H & S E study on possible health effects. Facial dermatitis appears to have occurred in a number of instances among VDU operators. Such rashes, although not all, can be helped by improving the environment. These appear to occur in environments with relatively low humidity in the air (20-30 per cent) and the presence of a static field.

The entire science is uncertain. HUSAT concedes that while there exists the possibility of direct or indirect health hazards, VDU users will continue to seek agreements which usually entail maximum "on screen" time per day and extra rest periods both can be expensive to implement.

The message from all the specialists is clear. The system must be designed with the user in mind. The traditional approach to systems design must be altered to include the humans' needs from advanced technology.

# Ten times better

Richard Horning, a student at the Vienna Institute, has raised the storage capacity in the memory circuit of a small-sized portable computer to 10-times the installed capacity, without increasing the dimensions of the computer or its weight. The portable computer, an Epson, HX-20, used for the integration of the new invention, has about the same measurement as a normal briefcase and weighs about 3.5 lb.

Mr Horning said: "The integration of a 144 K byte capacity - equivalent to the coverage of 80 five-written manuscript pages - has made available the current largest capacity for storing information in a portable computer model." The integration product will be on the market later this year.

Apple Computer has announced a "mouse" for the Apple II range of micros. It allows the user to select functions from different parts of the screen without using the keyboard. By moving a "mouse" across a surface, a piece of information or an arrow, for example, can be moved to a relevant screen position. It will be supplied with an interface card and a graphics program - Mousepaint. Facilities possible include pull-down menus, windows and icons. Price is £135.

Professor Zhang Zesheng, aged 88, has been bed-ridden for more than a year but, say Chinese officials, "his medical experience has been programmed into a computer at Jiangsu Medicine Hospital, which has cured 500 patients at an effective rate of 95 per cent in the last four months."

The hospital's top 10 doctors have an average age of 75, the oldest being 90. As they cannot work full-time, a spokesman says, a computer is necessary.

The difficulty of mastering the QWERTY keyboard is no longer necessary for users of the BBC

## BRIEFING

Micro. Microwriter, the company which produces the ergonomic five-key keyboard, has produced a six-key version for the BBC machine which can even be used by six-year-olds, the company says. Letters of the alphabet and numbers are produced by pressing combinations of the five main keys - rather like playing the piano with one hand.

New users, it is claimed, should achieve speeds of 30 words a minute in just five hours' use, compared with the weeks of practice necessary to become competent with the QWERTY keyboard. A Quinkey start-up pack retails at £50. Microwriter plans to launch Quinkey for the Spectrum, the Commodore 64 and other popular home computers later this year.

Briefing by Frank Brown, Matthew May, Mark Stone.

## UK events

ZK Microfair, Alexandra Palace, Wood Green, April 28  
Midland Computer Fair, National Exhibition Centre, Birmingham, May 4-7  
Computer, Business Systems & Communications Equipment Exhibition, Micro City, Bristol Exhibition Centre, May 15-17  
DEC User Show, Cunard International Hotel, London W6, May 15-17  
Walthamsoft '84, Main Exhibition Hall, Waltham Forest Technical College, Forest Road, London E17, May 19

## Overseas

Riba Computer Exhibition, Bloomsbury Crest Hotel, Coram Street, London WC1, May 22-24  
Apple '84, Fukuoka Centre, Slough, Berkshire, May 24-26  
Computerized Office Equipment, Rosemont, USA, May 1-3  
Compee Europe, Centre International Rogier, Brussels, May 8-10  
Data Processing, Computer & Automatic Systems Fair, Lyon, France, May 9-12  
Compiled by Personal Computer News

# Enter the SuperScot

By Maggie McLening

The British answer to the IBM Personal Computer may be to outdo it - but keep all the best features. The Scottish micro-manufacturer, Future Technology Systems (FTS), has announced a "non-IBM look-alike" which, though selling for a similar price, is claimed to run 250 per cent faster and to be able to run any of the multitude of programs written for the IBM PC, which many IBM-PC compatible computers cannot.

FTS has based the PCI on its existing PC86, which is sold mainly via other manufacturers such as Ferranti and Honeywell, which modify it before putting on their own labels. By far the biggest innovation is in the software available on and to the PCI. Instead of the single-user, single-tasking MS-DOS operating system favoured by most PC localities suppliers, Future Technology Systems has opted for Concurrent DOS from Digital Research, which allows up to four programs to run simultaneously. It also offers the choice of running applications written for either CP/M or IBM's native PC-DOS, and the PCI has a built-in enhancement to extend this to so-called "misbehaved" software.

As some of the PC-clones discovered to their cost, many of the most popular packages

contain software routines designed to speed up execution by taking a short cut through the operating system. These make the programs dependent on the host hardware and are termed "misbehaved", although FTS further divides this into "poorly" and "terribly" behaved; into which last category spreadsheet Lotus 1-2-3 falls.

PCI emulates the IBM hardware features to correct the deviation so that even the "terribly-behaved" conform. So confident is FTS that it has solved the problem, that the company is offering 25 per cent refunds on the PCI purchase price to anyone finding a piece of IBM PC software that will not run on the PCI.

Peter McHugh, the managing director of FTS, comments: "Everyone recognizes the success of the IBM product but those with any technical understanding cannot fail to wonder how a micro with such limited power, performance and outdated technology has achieved success - the answer is clearly the IBM name. Users are short-changed when they rent or buy this product. We are offering, in US terminology, 'more bangs per buck' in a machine that will undertake more tasks at a far greater speed."

# Out to wipe the high-tech thief

By Alan Lewis

A new company has been formed by a former assistant commissioner of New Scotland Yard to fight the increasing crime of computer fraud.

John Pascoe, a director of the new company, CS Computer and Information Security - and a former senior director of Sperry, said: "Companies are not used to defending themselves against the computer criminal."

"There is a whole generation of youngsters who have been brought up with computers and understand them inside-out. If just some of them are tempted into crime it means trouble."

"Some computer crimes are discovered but not always publicized; companies are sometimes hesitant to disclose that they have not looked after their secrets and valuables."

The service offered by CS is probably unique in the computer world. It will operate by making attempts to gain access to the computer areas of a company. They will take place over a three-month period with no notice given to the client of when the attempts will be made.

Reports on their success will be given to the client who requests the survey.

Computer-related fraud is estimated to be costing British industry between £500m and £2.5 billion a year.

Insurance against computer fraud is expensive and few British companies have taken out cover. But the problem is not simply a British one. In the United States, concern has

grown rapidly over the past years.

The US Defence Department, once confident that its computers were virtually impregnable, has become increasingly worried about future security.

It is concerned by the explosion in the numbers of people with physical access to top-secret computers. It is also worried by the growth of computer networks that ease the way for electronic entry by advancing new ways to "tap" a computer.

Advanced devices make it easier than ever to tap telephone lines. Radio frequency radiation from distant computer terminals can be intercepted and deciphered while surveillance devices can be clandestinely attached to remote terminals.

In the United States, FBI agents recently raided the homes of young computer buffs who were thought to have linked up to scores of commercial or government computers. No arrests followed because no Federal law covered the circumstances.

The mother of one youth whose computer was seized by the FBI said agents told her they were investigating intrusions into computers at the nuclear laboratories at Los Alamos, New Mexico, and the McClellan air base near Sacramento, California.

A computer expert commented: "If youngsters are doing this for a lark, can you imagine what people are doing who are serious about their intentions?"



# The Times National Microcomputer Challenge results

## Jeffrey, a winner for the blind

By Matthew May

Jeffrey Cooke, an 18-year-old from Northern Ireland, has won the finals of The Times National Microcomputer Challenge with a project designed to assist the blind in benefiting from computers.

He was one of 10 regional winners who each presented their projects for a day's judging at the Holiday Inn, Marble Arch, last Wednesday as part of the London Festival of Computing.

The aim of the competition, which attracted more than 500 entries, was to find the best original use of a micro for a novel or socially useful purpose. Ideas could involve any type of project using hardware or software and any type of microcomputer.

Jeffrey Cooke's system, Acoustic Braille, requires only four keys on the keyboard to be used to input a computer version of the six dots of the braille system. On input a series of tones allows blind users to check their entry and listen to information already stored.

Mr Cooke, a student at St Columba's College, Derry, chose his topic because he believed there were few aids on the market that were both cheap and comprehensive that could assist the blind to use computers.

## Writing letters

Acoustic Braille currently runs on a BBC B microcomputer but should be easily adaptable to other low-cost home micros.

It can be used for such things as writing letters or organizing a filing system but Mr Cooke wants to work on adding an optical character reader to the system which would allow the input of normally typed text.

He is already developing some speech synthesis capability to the system.

The judges awarded the second prize to Robert Collins, a final-year student at Keele University, for a project to assist in the study of the



Jeffrey Cooke who won The Times National Microcomputer Challenge with his project education of retarded children. He has developed simple games software that includes the ability to monitor action taken by a child when playing the game.

This can be analysed later by tutors to assess such things as learning ability.

Mr Collins, who already has experience of designing aids for the physically handicapped, wishes to continue his project by studying for a PhD.

Joint third prizes went to Jon Dingle for a program to help young motorcyclists avoid accidents, and R. W. Wills-Sandford with a project to use

micros in assisting neighbourhood policemen.

Mr Dingle, a Royal Naval lieutenant at Plymouth, developed his Bikesafe program on a 48K Spectrum. Aimed at 13 to 18 year olds the software begins with a road safety quiz for motorcyclists.

Scoring 90 per cent or above in the quiz allows the player to continue to a motorcycling arcade-type game. It is to be tested on schools by the Devon and Cornwall Police Road Safety Office.

Mr Wills-Sandford's project, based on an IBM personal computer, is a system to enable

# Computer Appointments

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## A paperwork expert at your elbow

By Chris Naylor

Close your eyes for five minutes and dream a fanciful dream. Let it be as far beyond the current realms of the possible as you can imagine it to be. Let it be a team that you are about to employ someone.

The Government tries to help in such matters. It produces, for instance, the *Employers' Guide to PAYE* to make simple the long-forgotten art of hiring staff.

But like all well-intentioned efforts attempts to make simple the laws of the land, it behoves the reader to read it well and regularly before the correct procedures become transparent.

What you really need in such circumstances is an expert to help you out. And in the near future that is exactly what you can have.

These particular experts have one big advantage over others - they run on a computer. For these are the "expert systems", the fifth generation dream machines.

And, at last, they are arriving. One of the first to arrive will be in June from an Oxford-based firm, Expert Systems. Its new product is called *ES/P Advisor* and, among other things, it will act as an expert consultant to those who wish to take on new staff, guiding them through the maze of National Insurance, PAYE, P45s, P46s, P15s, Emergency Coding and all of the other things. This particular program will run on those micro computers with CP/M-

**Worried about how to care for new employees?  
An Oxford firm's new product  
may take the pain out of PAYE, P45s and NI**

80, CP/M84, MSDOS or PC-DOS - a range of machines which includes most of the popular 16 bit computers currently in use.

The important thing about expert systems generally is that they can advise you how to do a task, carry out the conveyancing on your own property transactions without a solicitor, and decide when Statutory Sick Pay is due. In a matter of weeks from its launch, a host of new areas of expertise could become rapidly available to you at the flick of a disk.

The essence of the matter is that expert systems are not traditional computer programs as such. They are a shell within which expert systems can be quickly and easily constructed. All expert systems consist of two parts - a knowledge base and an inferring engine, both of which are good terms to remember next time you want to impress the less computerate round at your local hostelry.

The knowledge base is the particular area of expertise for some problem and it may be, say, the knowledge embodied in the Government's regulations concerning the hiring of employees. Equally well, it might be the knowledge needed to

bake bread. The inferring engine is the general purpose program which is used to drive this knowledge base. The shell is the inferring engine combined with the means to rapidly add a new knowledge base - a sort of framework within which expert systems can be rapidly constructed.

Of course, nothing in this world is perfect. Companies cannot produce expert systems which will tell you how to become, say, a millionaire (a distinct failing that) but this is simply because there is no preexisting body of knowledge to draw on which could advise you on that matter. But, if there already exists a text which will tell you what to do in certain situations, such as that in which you wish to hire staff, then expert systems such as *ES/P Advisor* enable a competent programmer to computerize this knowledge in a matter of days.

To make this clearer I decided, amid dreams of grandeur, that business was so good that I was about to take on, as an employee, Her Majesty The Queen and informed *ES/P Advisor* of the fact (next week, World Domination and How to Achieve It).

"Has the Queen", asked, *ES/P Advisor*, "Handed you Parts 2 and 3 of form P45?"

"No", I replied, frankly shocked at the thought.

"Has the Queen lost the P45 form?", came back the machine.

"No", I replied, almost stunned at the suggestion.

"What situation was the Queen in immediately prior to being taken on for employment?"

1) Self-employed; 2) previously employed full-time; 3) receiving full-time education at school or college; 4) claiming unemployment benefit; 5) any other occupation?

The only part-way decent response seemed to be "5" and so the session proceeded, until I was advised to: "Ask the Queen to complete either Certificate A or Certificate B on the back of form P46 and obtain his/her signature to the appropriate certificate."

Send the form P46 with Certificate B signed and Box (1) ticked by the Queen to the Tax Office.

At which point one's dreams of grandeur vanished like mist to be replaced by a nightmare in which a Buckingham Palace spokesman might be heard to observe frostily that "Her Majesty does not tick boxes."

But had I merely wished to hire non-royalty the system would have worked fine.

## Twelve say No to IBM's Euro plan

By Kevan Pearson

Over the last month IBM has been making strenuous efforts to get its own brand of computer network adopted as a standard by Western Europe. But IBM's efforts to push its own system, known as System Network Architecture (SNA), have been met by a consortium of 12 information technology companies which have put their own plans for open systems, allowing far more flexibility, before the European Commission. A spokesman for one member of the consortium, ICL, explained that adoption of a wider standard will give computer users "a greater freedom of choice" and prevent them being "locked in" to any particular supplier.

The problems include not only IBM's prodigious market share but also its determination to forge strong links with the European public telecommunications authorities (PPTs).

In the UK for example IBM has been involved in discussions with British Telecom and the Committee of London Clearing Banks about plans to establish an electronic funds transfer system in shops and the network it might well use to run on. IBM is also in the process of establishing a private telephone switching network for the Post Office based on its

ageing 1750 automated branch exchange.

The 12 companies hope to persuade the EEC to adopt the Open Systems Interconnection standard being developed by the International Standards Organization. Adoption of this standard for computer design will allow computers from different manufacturers to communicate freely with each other, which is hardly possible at the moment because of the different internal designs used by different manufacturers.

But IBM is not standing idly by while this happens. In addition to the links with British Telecom the company is also talking to other European PPTs. According to Al Dunn, European director of the Yankee Group market research company, the Austrian PTT is already planning a national valued added computer network based on IBM's proprietary interconnection system-SNA.

IBM is also talking to the West German Bundespost and Stet, the Italian PTT, about similar networks, says Dunn. The Bundespost would like to use the OSI standard for its network, but as with the UK, West Germany plans to privatize its telecommunications market and the Bundespost wants to operate its commercial services as soon as possible.

But until the OSI standard has been completed, no one can develop products or services to meet it. SNA, on the other hand, has been around since 1974 and a wide range of products exist which use it. And it is used by many independent companies, such as ICL and Digital Equipment, the world's second largest manufacturer of computers, to link their products to IBM systems.

In addition IBM will probably launch its own computer network in Britain before long. It already has a licence to operate a value added network service here. Such a system already exists in the US. Called the Information Network, it allows users to access IBM programs and computers that they do not have running in their own computer installation. It also allows users to link two or more computers at different sites. The Information Network handles all the interconnections.

If there is universal acceptance of IBM networks it is not just as a commercial threat to its nearest competitors, although they may well at some time have to go cap in hand to IBM if they require some new type of link into the network. The larger question is a political one in that it would give IBM a high degree of control over European communications generally.

## Share transfer of no effect

In re Zintoty Properties Ltd  
Before Mr Justice Mervyn Davies  
[Judgment delivered April 13]

A transfer of a share effected at a time when there were no directors, in consequence of the operation of article 89 of Table A of the Companies Act 1948, was not valid at the date of an extraordinary general meeting and in consequence a resolution for voluntary winding up, passed at the meeting, was of no effect. Mr Justice Mervyn Davies so held in the Chancery Division making a winding-up order on equitable grounds under section 222(f) of the Companies Act 1948.

Mr Oliver Weaver for the petitioner, Miss Catherine Mary Newman for the respondents.

MR JUSTICE MERVYN DAVIES said the petitioner, Hanover St George Securities Ltd, sought an order that it was just and equitable for the company, Zintoty Properties Ltd, to be wound up compulsorily under section 222(f) of the 1948 Act.

Miss Newman, for the company and a contributory, City Road Securities Ltd, contended that the company had been placed in voluntary liquidation on February 15, 1984 and that the voluntary liquidation should be allowed to continue, whether or not it was right to make a compulsory order.

Mr Weaver said the alleged voluntary liquidation had not been properly constituted, or if it had been, that it should be stopped pursuant to section 310 of the 1948 Act, so a compulsory liquidation could proceed.

The company had been incorporated in 1987 in order to acquire and develop a site in Chandler's Ford, Hampshire, two shares being controlled through the petitioner by Mr Brown, while six had been held by City Road Securities, a company controlled by Mr Perry.

Mr Brown and Mr Perry had been involved, through companies, in a number of joint ventures. Mr Brown had expected to be, but later discovered that he had not been, appointed a director.

The uncontested facts showed that he had not been so appointed, and that a Mr Bullfield had been appointed instead; that the company had been formed solely to develop the Chandler's Ford site but had been used for another venture at Clapham; that accounts had not been properly prepared or distributed, nor annual returns submitted; that the assets, having been rendered into cash, had been lent or otherwise applied without security and interest free.

It was further shown that the transfer to the petitioner on May 9, 1977 had not been registered until June 28, 1979 and that there had since been difficulty in obtaining the share certificate, that the company had never held any general meetings with the consequence that by operation of article 89 of Table A the company had no directors, and that some entries in the accounts of "loan interest" and auditor's remuneration were unexplained.

The petition was presented on December 14, 1983. On February 10, 1984 there had been a purported transfer of one share from City Road to Mr Bullfield. No point was taken that while mutual trust and confidence could of course subsist between two individuals it perhaps

could not in any sense subsist between two corporate bodies. The argument had proceeded on the footing that Mr Brown was to be wholly identified with the petitioner, and Mr Bullfield and Mr Perry with City Road. The judgment was delivered on that footing. His Lordship was of the plain opinion that the company should be wound up.

Mr Weaver accepted that the meeting of February 15 was validly convened, but said that no quorum being present (Mr Brown did not attend) it was not effective to place the company in voluntary liquidation.

Article 7 empowered directors to decline to register a transfer to a person who was not already a member of the company, so the question arose whether in the absence of any directors the company's secretary was entitled to register the transfer to Mr Bullfield. If so he was a member on February 15, there was a quorum and the resolution for voluntary liquidation was duly passed; if not he was not a member on that date and there was no valid resolution.

A share in a company was *prima facie* freely transferable; see *In re Svaldale Cleaners Ltd* ([1908] 1 WLR 1710), but against that article 7 empowered directors in their absolute discretion and without assigning reasons to decline to register any transfer, though that right must be exercised without undue delay, which normally meant a two months delay.

Miss Newman persuasively argued that there being no directors

on February 10, no active step could be taken by the directors pursuant to article 7, and she distinguished *Chida Mines Ltd v Anderson* ([1905] 22 TLR 27).

Mr Weaver submitted that a company secretary could only make an entry on the register when authorized to do so by the board, and he relied on Mr Justice Oliver's judgment in *In re New Cedars Engineering Co Ltd* (unreported, December 3, 1975).

But on competing submissions, His Lordship concluded that he must look at the position as it was just before the extraordinary general meeting of February 15, 1984, when Mr Bullfield had a *prima facie* right to be registered subject to article 7 being expressly activated against him and when the company had a reasonable period of two months to consider the matter.

Mr Bullfield would have a right at the end of the period to have had the transfer registered, but if during the period the absence of directors were remedied, the new directors would have an opportunity until the end of the two months to refuse the registration. Accordingly Mr Bullfield was not a member on February 15 and the voluntary winding up resolution was without effect.

His Lordship went on to hold that, even if he were wrong, in the circumstances the rights of the petitioner would be prejudiced if the voluntary liquidation were to proceed and accordingly made a compulsory winding up order.

Solicitors: A. L. Bryden & Williams; Norton Rose, Botterell & Roche.

**You'll be sick as a parrot if you miss this month's Your Computer.**



If you've ever fancied yourself as an armchair Atkinson or a closet Clough don't miss May's issue of Your Computer. It tells you how to play Football Supremo, the game that lets you call the shots as a soccer manager.

There's also a preview of the new Amstrad 64K home computer. A software survey on games for the Spectrum, the Electron and the BBC. As well as listings **YOUR COMPUTER** for the Vic-20, Dragon, Oric and Commodore 64. And lots more.

May's issue is out now. You'll be over the moon if you get it.

**A 3 bit guide to constructing an 8 bit micro starts this month.**

**Wireless**

In May's new look Electronics and Wireless World there's the first of a three part guide to constructing the SC84 8 bit disc drive micro.

Designed by John Adams in his own back bedroom, it's 65% faster\* than IBM's PC.

And with 64K of user memory it's been designed with add-ons in mind, and to specifications that make it satisfying to construct.

There's even a range of inexpensive software, including a disc operating system available from the same designer.

Also featured this month is the first of two articles on Electronics and Wireless World's own multi-standard modem, which provides access to both Prestel and Micronet.

And there's much, much more.

## Duty of minister to construe treaty

Regina v Secretary of State for Transport, Ex parte Philippine Airways Ltd

Although the Air Services Agreement between the United Kingdom and the Philippines was an international treaty and its provisions were therefore not justiciable on an application for judicial review, if the secretary of state took those provisions into account in deciding whether to exercise his powers under article 59 of the Air Navigation Order (SI 1980 No 1965) to revoke, suspend or vary an airline's operating permit, he was under a duty to ask himself the question, regarding the effect of the agreement on the exercise of his powers under article 59, which would require him correctly to construe the agreement.

Mr Justice McNeill so stated in the Queen's Bench Division - on April 13, granting Philippine Airlines judicial review by way of certiorari to quash a provisional suspension of its operating permit, which it had held for over three years, by the Secretary of State for Transport, who wished to prevent it flying more than two flights a week between London and Manila.

HIS LORDSHIP said that the secretary of state had power under article 59 provisionally to suspend or vary a permit pending due inquiry, and that such inquiry to make a final decision to revoke, suspend or vary it.

In this case, in view of the length of time during which the permit had been in force, three to six months' notice of the intended revocation would be required for a final decision; the secretary of state would need time to complete the due inquiry. The power to suspend or vary permits provisionally was not confined to emergencies.

In order to succeed the applicant did not have to show that the secretary of state's decision had been perverse or in bad faith.

The secretary of state had not considered whether the Air Services Agreement conferred any rights or imposed any duties on the applicant. He should have done, because that issue was relevant to the exercise of his powers under article 59.

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THE TIMES

## FINANCE AND INDUSTRY

Executive Editor Kenneth Fleet

## Going gets tough in ritual Japanese trade war

When the thin milk of international economic cooperation turns sour, Western governments reach for a drop of the hard stuff. Knocking the Japanese is an intoxicating game played by European and American politicians before almost every one of the present series of annual economic summits. Complaints against Japanese trade practices go down extremely well in Detroit, or Lille, or Coventry or Stuttgart; but this year's ritual trade war is beginning to look more like a drunken brawl.

The West's case against Japan is always the same; the numbers, however, get bigger. The Japanese trade surplus topped a record \$23 billion (£16 billion) in the year to March - in that month alone, it exceeded \$3 billion. For the coming year run as high as \$35 billion.

Those countries euphemistically known as Japan's "trading partners" are rarely so crude as to demand that Japan simply stop exporting. But some of the requests for "restraint" come pretty close. This past weekend Count Otto Lambsdorff, West Germany's finance minister, told a conference in Tokyo that the Japanese should stop flooding export markets with "sensitive" products (meaning, presumably, those products European consumers most want to buy from Japanese makers rather than their own).

But the war against Japanese exports is more usually conducted under the apparently reputable guise of anti-dumping actions. Quite a lot of disreputable protectionism is rubber-stamped in this way by national courts, however, because dumping is not easy to define, and even when the barriers go up for the most defensible of reasons, they add to the dead weight of trade restriction now dragging down world growth. So a more respectable, but also more difficult approach has been to try to get Japanese imports up - not Japanese exports down.

In this international argument, the American economy emerges from the doghouse to be placed, improbably, on a pedestal. The much-abused American budget deficit reappears as a generous trade deficit, in contrast to Japan's money-grubbing surplus. These two super-economies are now expected to notch up about the same percentage increase in gross national product in 1984 (new Japanese indicators released yesterday show the economy speeding up). But while Americans are buying more extra goods than they are producing - thus helping others to expand - the Japanese are selling more than they buy.

Looked at from the consumer's point of view, it is the Americans who are being greedy, not the Japanese. The net gainers from this trade imbalance are the Americans, living beyond their means; the net losers the Japanese consumers, who are not receiving the full benefit of the extra buying power earned by their nation. But in Japan, as in America or Europe, it is producers that pull the strings; so every year the Japanese open up their markets as little as possible to American beef and oranges, or British biscuits (the shopping list never seems to vary), while the Americans and Europeans seize the excuse to keep out Japanese cars and videos.

One exasperated British negotiator once described the Japanese negotiating technique as "tossing Oxo cubes out of the sledge to keep the wolves at bay." Every Japanese politician can recite a formidable list of import restrictions dismantled over the past 10 years of economic summits, just as he will point to his Gucci shoes and Savile Row suit and remind you politely

that there is a limit to the amount of Scotch he can consume. But when visible barriers come down, exporters trip on invisible restrictions; Japan still, for example, refuses to accept international testing standards for European chemicals.

In this niggardly trade war, the fault is not all on the Japanese side. Every local market has its peculiarities, and Western manufacturers are a sight too ready to cry foul when it is their own marketing strategy that may be at fault. Some exporters do get through: Europe sold 20 per cent more to Japan last year, narrowing the trade gap a little. And Japan is not immune to the problems of recession, which so many Western industries plead as an excuse for protectionism.

But there are two strands in this year's pre-summit argument which are trying Western tempers to danger point. One is the standard Japanese technique of dangling large individual contracts (eg, for telecommunications satellites) in front of aggrieved exporting nations (eg, the United States) as a substitute for more open markets. This year's gestures are coming from the private sector because Japan is trying to hold down government spending - but, even so, they are no substitute for trade freedom. The second is a particular degree of obstinacy about trade restrictions in services and finance.

Japan's pre-eminence in manufacturing has hidden the growth of a rich and protected service sector. Japan now possesses the world's biggest advertising agency as well as its biggest steelmaker. In most services, the trade issues are intrinsically no different from those involved in "visible" goods competition. In finance, they are both more complicated and more sensitive.

America's particular determination to get the Japanese to open up their financial markets is not solely designed to earn American banks a fair share of the Far Eastern financial action. It reflects the weakness of the yen. The American Administration believes strongly that Japanese goods compete unfairly on price because financial controls keep the yen permanently undervalued. On their side, the Japanese know that cosy, controlled financial markets have been an important ingredient of industrial investment and expansion.

The dispute between the two has now reached a dangerous deadlock. The Americans have blocked international agreement on a reshuffle of the responsibilities (together with a much-needed injection of cash) at the World Bank in a savage attempt to force Japan to act; but after a week's emergency negotiations, the Japanese were, over the weekend, still trotting out old excuses, and floating the hoary old idea of an offshore yen market as an alternative to true liberalization. Yet, at the very same moment, the South Korean Government was announcing that it would be opening up its financial markets to foreign banks next year; they will have equal access, on a par with domestic banks, to the central bank's discount facilities. This move was deliberately designed to distinguish Korean trade practice from Japan's, because the Korean Government is afraid of being tarred with the same protectionist brush. Limitation by such newly-industrialized countries as Korea has been, for Japan, the sincerest form of flattery. Now it should learn from its flatterers, before it is too late.

Sarah Hogg  
Economics Editor

## China acts to boost Hongkong morale after Howe's speech

By Ian Griffiths

Both the Hongkong Government and the British Government have moved over the weekend to maintain confidence about Hongkong's future as an investment and financial centre in the wake of Sir Geoffrey Howe's announcement on Friday that Britain will withdraw its administration from the colony in 1997.

The Hongkong Government Office issued a statement on Sunday that merchant banking arm of National Westminster Bank was moving investments into Hongkong because it saw recovery prospects. County Bank has already moved \$500m (£352m) to Hongkong, Japan, Singapore and Malaysia.

although the bulk has gone to Japan.

A spokesman for the Hongkong Government Office said: "The maintenance of stability is the number one priority. However, we have no view on commercial matters and would not interfere with the stock markets. We prefer to let the market sort itself out."

Sir Geoffrey's announcement was made after the stock markets had closed for the Easter break and the reaction of the volatile Hang Seng index will not be known until trading starts today.

Observers in Hongkong report that Sir Geoffrey's announcement was well received by the local press and although it contained little by way of new information, the official recognition that Britain would withdraw from 1997 affords the opportunity for companies to plan their future with certainty.

An drop in the Hang Seng index will reflect short-term speculation rather than a long-term lack of confidence.

Although there has been a flight of capital from Hongkong in recent months and Jardine, Matheson, the oldest trading company, announced the transfer of its legal base to Bermuda last month, more than 250 foreign companies have come to the colony in the last year.

The Chinese are equally keen

to maintain confidence and on Saturday a senior leader, state councillor Ji Pengfei, told a Hongkong delegation that Taiwanese companies and officials based in the colony should stay and invest when China takes over in 1997.

He said they would have full rights and added that all relations between Hongkong and Taiwan, including sea and air transportation, economic and cultural ties and personnel exchanges, would not be affected by the change.

The Chinese language newspaper *Wen Wei Po* reported in Hongkong yesterday that talks on the colony's future are now likely to speed up.

## Dow up in mixed trade

New York (AP) - Dow Jones - Stocks were mixed with enough gains among the blue chips to lift the Dow Jones industrial average back into the black yesterday.

The average showed a gain of more than one point after it had slipped to a loss of two.

But declining issues were 7 to 5 ahead of advances. Trading continued slow.

Mr Robert Farrell, market analyst for Merrill Lynch, said some long-term technical indicators were moving toward bullish levels that could be of major significance but currently are in a sort of stock market "limbo."

International Business Machines was up 1-8 at 110.78; General Motors down 1-8 at 64.5-8; General Electric up 1-8 at 34.5-8; Ford unchanged at 35.1-8; Sears Roebuck down 3-8 to 32.3-8; Lockheed up 3-8 at 36.3-8; Teledyne up 1-8 at 158 and Texas Instruments up 1-8 to 139.1-4.

## STOCK EXCHANGES

FT-SE 100 Index: 1108.4 down 7.8 (day's high: 1114.8; low: 1108.4)  
FT-SE 250 Index: 880.0 down 8.8  
FT-SE 100 Index: 81.65 down 0.26  
Bargains: 22.27  
Datastream USM Leaders Index: 113.67 up 0.11  
New York: Dow Jones Industrial Average: 1153.27 down 3.24  
Tokyo: Nikkei Dow Jones Index: 10783.04 down 149.81  
Hongkong: Hang Seng Index: 1115.85 up 25.65

## CURRENCIES

LONDON CLOSE  
Sterling \$1.4185 up 5pts  
Index 79.9 up 0.2  
DM 3.7700 up 0.0127  
FF 11.5500 up 0.0200  
Yen 319.00 unchanged  
Dollar Index 127.8 down 0.1  
DM 2.6580 up 0.0081  
NEW YORK LATEST  
Sterling \$1.4170  
Dollar Index 127.8

## INTERNATIONAL

ECU £0.593505  
SDR £0.744207

## BOARD MEETINGS

TODAY - Interims: Futura Holdings. Final: Anchor Chemicals, Bardley, Bantals, Capra Industries, Clement Clarke, Edinburgh Investment Trust, Emess Lighting, English National Investment, F&I International, Laurence Gold and Co., Helens of London, Moss Bros, Nordin and Peacock, Rush and Tompkins, Thomas Warrington and Sons.  
TOMORROW - Interims: New Australia Trust, Union Carbide Corp, Vanburgh, Currency Fund, Final: Ellis and Goldstein, Ex-Lande, Gold and Base Metal Mines, Fleming Universal Investment Trust, Marshall's Universal, HC Slingsby, Spear and Jackson International, Travis and Arnold, Wingate Property Investment.

THURSDAY - Interims: Anglo-Scottish Investment Trust, Border and Southern Stockholders Trust, James Finlay, ICI (first quarter), Samuel Properties Stewart Nairn Group, Final: Blodde Holdings, Blue Circle Industries, Cline Discount Holdings, Cole Group, EIS Group, Estate and Agency Holdings, Farnell Electronics, Norman Hay, House of Fraser, Lake View Investment Trust, Lepore Industries, Minter Holdings, James Neil Holdings, Harold Perry Motors, Office and Electronic Machines, Telephone Rentals, UBM Holdings, Wharman Reave and Sons, George Wimpey, Wire and Plastic Products.  
FRIDAY - Interims: Aberdeen Trust, Berry Trust, Lowland Investment Co. Final: Henry Boot and Sons, Downbrae Holdings, Flight Refuelling, Hopkins Holdings, Sunlight Service Group.

## Banks detail Esal rescue plan

By Philip Robinson

Bankers telephoned final details of a \$34m (£31.7m) rescue package to leading creditors of Esal (Commodities) this week-end, in an attempt to save the London based group, which comprises a dozen companies and has debts of \$200m (£141m).

Seven banks owed about \$160m and led by the Punjab National Bank, have drawn up the package but its success depends on the 25 unsecured creditors owed between \$30m and \$50m signing it.

Some were sceptical last week that the package would contain anything more than promises of being repaid from Esal trading profits over the next two or three years. Unsecured creditors want to see cash on the table from the bankers as a sign of goodwill.

If agreed, the banks will inject \$5m immediately to cover day-to-day costs and will guarantee a further \$40m to cover trading. There will be proposals for both the banks and the unsecured creditors, but it is doubted whether these include cash payments.

Esal (Commodities) has not traded since January. Its assets are now frozen by High Court

order. This would have to be removed before trading could resume. Esal says its problems started when a coup in Nigeria caused cuts in sugar imports and payments for goods already taken.

However, long before the coup, records lodged with Companies House show Esal Commodities was having to offer large security on loans.

The Central Bank of India has registered charge over a Boeing 707 owned by the company.

None of the original directors is now running the company, which has been held together for the past seven weeks by Mr James Coote, an accountant appointed by a creditor of Esal Commodities.

If the package is agreed, the banks are expected to appoint a management team to include the accountants Peat Marwick Mitchell, which is conducting a detailed investigation into the group.

The plan would be to obtain business from those past directors who are no longer in Britain and hope that undisclosed amounts owed to Esal (Commodities) by Nigeria will be repaid.

Esal (Commodities) was

## Grand Met wins Far East first

By John Lawless

Grand Metropolitan has become the first Western company to win the right to bid for "life support" contracts to China's offshore oil industry.

The business potential is great, as shown by another contract held by Grandmet International Services (GIS) in Saudi Arabia. It services the Aramco oil-town population of up to 15,000 expatriate workers.

GIS employs 5,000 staff worldwide providing basic necessities and comfort in work camps.

However, it had to get an early stake in China, the only likely significant area on the world oil production map, if it was to continue its substantial expansion.

So far, the only other foreign company sanctioned to bid for support services has been a Hongkong-based joint venture involving Jardine, Matheson.

GIS has set up its own 50-50 partnership with the Hongkong-based Fung Ping Fan family

concern. The new company GF International Services (China) has already won its first mainland contract. It is to run the 280-room Hai Bin Hotel in Zhanjiang, which is to be expanded to 800 rooms to cope with the growing number of foreign oil workers living there.

Shell has won a big contract to carry out a feasibility study for a joint venture to develop part of China's large coal reserves.

Shell Coal International and the China National Coal Development Corporation have signed an agreement after more than a year of negotiations. Shell would help develop a mine in Shandong province

## Nigeria near agreement

By Our City Staff

An announcement that Nigeria has at last reached agreement with the International Monetary Fund for an extended, three-year credit of up to \$3.1 billion (£2.76 billion) is possible within the next two weeks, well-informed financial sources said yesterday.

The announcement is likely to be made by the military government in Lagos, probably to the effect that it is signing a letter of intent for an economic readjustment programme. That would still have to be approved

by the IMF's managing director before going before the fund's board of directors.

On that timescale, formal approval would come by June at the earliest.

There is still extreme caution in financial circles, however, that the intense feeling in Nigeria against a devaluation of the naira may still spike the deal, or at least delay it.

However, with agreement seemingly close between Nigeria and its uninsured trade credi-

tors, such an outcome seems less likely.

During the past few weeks, senior officials have been making obvious attempts to prepare the population for a harder-than-expected two- to three years ahead. Major-General Muhammadu Buhari, Nigeria's Head of State, said in a televised discussion of the economy with trade union leaders when the military took over: "We never knew it was so bad."



John Hann: New head for mail order group.

## Chairman steps down

Mr Michael Pickard is to step down as chairman of Grattan, the Bradford mail-order retailer, to concentrate on his role as full-time chairman of Imperial Brewing and Leisure.

He will be succeeded by Mr John Hann, aged 57, who until last month was managing director of the retail division of Boots.

Mr Pickard has presided over a restructuring of the Grattan board, which included recruiting new directors from the British Mail Order Corporation, since he became chairman.

Mr Pickard, aged 51, said he would be staying on the Grattan board. The appointment of a new chairman had been discussed since last autumn.

## TUC opposes self-regulation

By Frances Williams, Economics Correspondent

Britain's retailers expect buoyant business this month after a disappointing March, according to the latest survey of distributive trades by the Confederation of British Industry.

Mr John Salisse, chairman of the CBI's survey panel, described the March figures, which showed only a 2.5 per cent rise on the previous year, as "just a hiccup" and said sales

in April "may possibly return" to the exceptionally high levels of late last year.

Retailers believe that recent cold weather combined with a late Easter depressed sales in March but there are already signs that business has picked up this month, especially in clothing and footwear which did much worse than expected last month.

Of the 340 retailers in the

survey, conducted in late March and early April, 77 per cent foresee higher sales this month than a year ago, with only 7 per cent expecting a drop. The balance of 70 per cent compares with 45 per cent for actual sales in March.

Wholesalers and motor traders, who suffered a fall in March sales from a year earlier, envisage a pickup in business this month.

The TUC says: "In view of the failure of a number of investment companies investors can have little confidence in major institutions such as the Stock Exchange and Lloyd's being allowed to continue to regulate their own affairs."

The TUC also opposes the Government's proposals on the control of pension schemes by self-regulating agencies.

## NEWS IN BRIEF

## Overtime rises as perks fall

The amount of overtime worked in manufacturing industries is rising, according to a study by Reward, a company specializing in regional wages and salaries surveys.

Figures show that 34.5 per cent of manufacturing operatives worked overtime in November 1983, only marginally below the level in 1977. Average hours worked was 8.7 the same as 1977.

The Reward study suggests that one reason why unemployment is not falling as companies pull out of the recession is the increase in overtime. This is borne out by recent comments from several manufacturing companies.

The study also highlights a growing trend to move away from fringe benefits and perks to concentrate instead on direct pay.

One reason for this is the Government's continued attack on fringe benefits.

● Extension of VAT to building alterations and improvements will deter essential housing repairs says the Building Economic Development Council, which claims that repairs worth £20 billion are overdue.

● Footwear imports rose steeply in January to give foreign makers a 65 per cent market share compared with 56 per cent in 1983. But British makers' order books are treble the December level and factory employment is expanding.

● Occidental Oil's 15 per cent stake in the Claymore fields is for sale, valued at up to £120m by the specialist broker Wood Mackenzie.

## Surge in investment spending forecast

By Our Economics Correspondent

A surge in investment spending of 8 per cent this year and 7 per cent next is predicted by Rowe & Pitman, the stock brokers, in an analysis of the Budget tax changes for companies.

The analysis published today says the Government, which has forecast a 6 per cent increase in capital spending this year, has underestimated the incentive for companies to accelerate investment plans in order to maximize tax allowances before they are phased down.

The cutting of rates by the leasing market, which is dominated by the banks - also offers a powerful incentive to companies to invest early. It is now offering rates of about 2 per cent.

Leasing has been widely used by companies who did not pay enough tax to enable them to claim full tax allowances. The leasing groups claimed the allowances instead and passed most of the benefit on to the investing company. But the Budget tax changes will make leasing much less attractive.

## AMERICAN NOTEBOOK

## Higher taxes whoever is elected

Even before the presidential election has begun there is already a wide acceptance in Washington, on Wall Street and on main street, America, that there will be substantial increases in rates of taxation in 1985.

If President Reagan is returned, it is expected indexation of the income tax scales will be maintained pending the institution of a new income tax structure. This is likely to have only about three "steps" and a minimum of deductions. The deductibility of home mortgage interest is unlikely to be eliminated.

There is also active discussion about the prospect of levying a wide-ranging national sales tax or even a value-added tax.

Whoever is returned to the White House and whichever party has the majority in the Senate, it seems most likely that

there will be substantial tax increases, indicating the inability of Congress or the Administration to gain control of government spending.

The failure to control government spending and the continuing evidence of a strong rise in banks' reserves have sent the financial markets into ever-deeper gloom. Bond futures at the end of last week had fallen to within 10 per cent of their 1982 low. Cash bonds last Thursday were as low as they had been in August 1982, at the bottom of the slump before the big bond rally of August-November 1982.

Over the past couple of months there has been increasing speculation that there will be a sharp drop in the rate of growth of real gnp in the second quarter. The economic reports of March conditions indicate that the economy probably peaked in January and levelled

off or even declined in February and March.

Most analysts who are forecasting a slump in the rate of real gnp growth in the second quarter are, however, expecting that economic growth will bounce back in the third and fourth quarters.

It is here that the financial markets may have something to say. In the last two weeks, it has seemed as if nothing would modify the bond markets. They plunged the day after the announcement of a 2.2 per cent drop in retail sales and a fall in the M1 money supply figure. That was Friday, April 13. Last week they continued to drop, indicating their fear of prospective inflation.

The gloom in the bond markets and the bad conditions in the stock markets may well go some of the way to knock the boom in consumer spending

that has been so important in the recovery to date. Millions of Americans have a stake in the financial markets.

Another result of the bond market's gloom has been the halt of the downturn of the dollar against leading currencies.

Gold hopefuls have also seen their hopes dashed for the time being, as the power of the bears in the bond market has overwhelmed optimism in gold based on prospective increases in American inflation.

We are seeing the "revolt of the financial" markets in full force. So powerful is the cynicism bitterness of the bond markets that it raises the question: Will the inflationary boom that the money explosion of 1982-1983 seemed to predict actually come about?

Maxwell Newton



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## THE GILT-EDGED MARKET

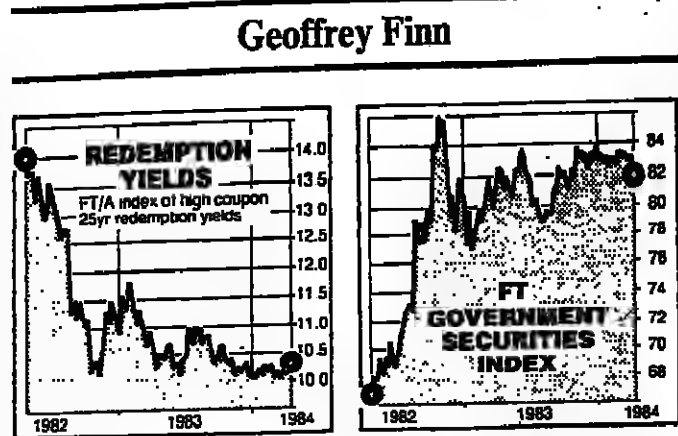
## Favourable climate despite doubts

Geoffrey Finn

One of the most disturbing features of the gilt-edged market's recent lacklustre performance, particularly in the eyes of those chartanalysts who fear further technical weakness, was the fall in the FT Government Securities index last Thursday to 81.68, its lowest point since last November 7. Over the past six months prices have remained locked within a narrow trading range with long-dated maturities fluctuating within limits of only 4% points. This represents one of the longest periods of relative stability for several years in a market which has established something of a reputation for movements of increasing volatility.

Having reached a 19-year high of 85.84 in early November 1982, the index has since failed to progress beyond that point despite threatening to do so on a number of occasions. This failure to overshoot the 1982 peak has caused a great deal of disappointment to a substantial body of optimistic investors who confidently expected yield to decline, in line with tumbling inflation, to levels significantly below 10 per cent.

Alas, despite the considerable political bonus of Mrs Thatcher's convincing election victory last June followed by Mr Nigel Lawson's commendable Budget six weeks ago, the optimists have had to endure the frustration of a sideways moving market in which long-dated yields have stubbornly resisted falling below the 10 per cent. At present there seems to be relatively little immediate prospect of breaking out of the current impasse unless some unexpected piece of good news arrives, particularly from the direction of the United States.



to raise morale and restore confidence.

On the whole, the domestic monetary, fiscal and general economic background remains distinctly favourable for the gilt-edged market. However, a fair degree of understandable scepticism has been voiced concerning some of Mr Lawson's Budget assumptions on future economic growth, inflation, monetary guidelines and currency movements.

While it seems reasonable, on balance, to support the Chancellor's sanguine view on inflation, there are one or two slightly worrying pressure points which have manifested themselves recently on producer prices and industrial earnings. At present, they are being comfortably counterbalanced by a continuing squeeze on profit margins and by sustained labour productivity gains at the prevailing level of unemployment.

However, if attempts are made by producers and retailers to widen their profit margins and if unit labour costs per man hour do start to rise, the upward pressures on domestic retail

prices could begin to constitute a real threat to the official inflation optimism.

Some disquiet is also being expressed at the relatively high rate of growth in recent months in the broadly based PSL2 money supply measure which, includes building society deposits. This grew at a rate of 12 per cent in the year to last month but at an uncomfortably higher annual rate of 15 per cent during the first quarter of this year. These growth rates compare with the official 1984/85 target range of 6 per cent to 10 per cent Sterling M3, on its newly defined basis which excludes public sector deposits. It is estimated to have grown by 9½ per cent in the year to March but at a more moderate 7 per cent per annum over the past three months, both of which are comfortably within targets.

Those who want to worry will quote PSL2 and will stress the upward pressures which the current strong demand for mortgages is exerting on that particular measure. Those who are prone to complacency will

emphasize that Sterling M3, together with the narrowly based newcomer Mo, are both progressing within prescribed limits.

Whichever one chooses it seems that the authorities are completely relaxed about their funding programme at present. They have not introduced any sizeable taps since early March when £1¼ billion Exchequer 10% 1989 "A" was launched. Since then, the Government Broker has been happy to supply a trio of moderately sized medium-dated "taplets", a modest quantity of index-linked stock in response to a temporary upsurge in demand plus the most recent pair of low coupon shorts consisting of £100m Treasury 3% 1986 and £150m Treasury 3% 1987.

The latest figures on public borrowing, released last Tuesday, showed a seasonably adjusted provisional PSBR of £2.6 billion for the month of March. That brought the total outturn for the 1983/84 financial year to £9.4 billion, slightly below the official Budget forecast of £10 billion.

The important figure for the gilt-edged market to focus upon, however, is the 1984/85 PSBR target, which has been set at £7.4 billion. This at first sight might seem ambitiously low but, owing to various special factors such as an asset sales, the acceleration of VAT receipts on imports, the exclusion of public sector deposits and finally the anticipated receipt of the delayed £500m EEC rebate, it should be attainable without placing an undue burden on the gilt-edged market.

On examination, notwithstanding some slight areas of concern, there is relatively little to prompt undue anxiety.

Admittedly, the fear that the coal miners' dispute might escalate into a wider test of strength between the Government and the unions has played some part in the market's latest bout of depression.

However, by far the greatest source of despondency has been the recent rise in interest rates in the United States where the Federal Reserve has lifted the key discount rate from 8½ per cent to 9 per cent, its first increase since May 1981 and where prime rates have climbed to 12 per cent, their highest since November 1982. Long-dated US Treasury bonds have slumped to their lowest levels since August 1982 to a yield basis of just under 12½ per cent compared with just under 10½ per cent last May.

Although good news from across the Atlantic will probably be needed to lift the gilt-edged lethargy, the UK market has shown itself capable of moving independently over the past year. Furthermore, there are sufficient domestic grounds for reassurance to justify investors taking a positive stance and to start seeking some of the attractive returns thrown up by the recent fall in prices, particularly in the 1995 to 2000 maturity bracket.

The highest return is on Treasury 14% 1996 which yields 11.3 per cent at its recent price of 120½. Those who dislike paying over par could consider Exchequer 13% 2000 yields 10.92 per cent at 119½. Since these returns are some 40p higher than those prevailing three months ago the recent drift in prices does have its compensations for those awaiting a suitable buying opportunity.

Geoffrey Finn is a partner in stockbrokers Rowe & Pitman.

## Profit explosion ahead for becalmed Fitch

Figures from Fitch & Co, the design consultant, were well received in the market, but appear to have successfully masked what was an exceptional year for the group's business at home.

There is now a growing awareness among analysts that Fitch is on the verge of a profit explosion and this may soon be reflected in the share price. In 1983 Fitch's pretax profits rose 17 per cent to £1.02m on turnover 40 per cent higher at £5.5m. The contribution from the group's overseas activities, which are now undergoing a cost-cutting operation, almost disappeared, but profits at home improved by about £300,000 to almost £1m. The growth of the group's British operation shows few signs of slowing and they are expected to chip in with another bumper set of figures in the current year.

Grieveson Grant, the broker, is looking for pretax profits of £1.25m and for a "substantially better" performance next year.

Fitch won a prestigious contract from Asda this year to redesign several of its superstores and this, combined with existing contracts from Boots and the fast-growing Burton chain of shops, should ensure healthy profit growth over the next couple of years. Fitch is currently designing the interior of Terminal 4 at Heathrow and several new contracts are expected to be announced shortly.

The Budget proposals for cutting tax were also good news for Fitch which in the past has been a high taxpayer. The current p/e of 22 should fall sharply to around 15 next year making the shares even more attractive.

Fitch made a spectacular debut on the Unlisted Securities Market in October 1982, with

the shares opening at 210p compared with the placing price of 150p.

Since then the shares have hit a high of 295p, but in recent months have moved sideways as interest waned. Grieveson Grant is recommending Fitch as a "buy" and says: "The rating may be looking some way ahead, but we believe that investors are unlikely to have the opportunity to buy into this interesting situation on a significantly cheaper rating."

As a boy, Mr Joe Saphire always wanted to be a doctor, but when the money ran out his uncle offered him a job as a marketeer in the London Fruit Exchange. He has never looked back and, apart from a break

supplying big retail chains with fish fruit and vegetables all year round is a big problem and Mr Saphire says the growers are more than ever relying on new technology to make their task easier. Hunter Saphire now acts as agents for growers around the world and over the past few years has developed recipe dishes for stores like Marks and Spencer.

The USM's first unit trust manager takes its bow later this week when Robert Wigram, the stockbroker, announces the proposed flotation of shares in Plan Invest Group, one of Britain's largest independent unit trust portfolio advisory companies.

Plan Invest was formed back in 1974 by Mr David Trimble and Mr Peter Hayes, managing director, and claims to offer a comprehensive financial planning service to investors. The total value of funds now controlled by the group is in excess of £25m. The group's investment coverage is widespread offering its 750 clients expert coverage.

All three of last week's newcomers made a healthy start in first time dealings. The Body Shop, franchised retailing operation of body lotions, ended the week at 195p - a premium of 100p over the original placing price of 95p. Pantherella, the high quality socks manufacturer, where Sir Hugh Fraser owns a sizeable stake, also ended the week on a firm note. The shares placed at 80p closed at 104p - a premium of 24p in the first few days of trading. Ramco Oil Services, the corrosion experts in the exploration industry, enjoyed favourable support with the shares closing at 100p compared with the original placing price of 80p.

Michael Clark

## USM REVIEW

USM prices tables are on page 18

during the war, has established himself and his company Hunter Saphire as one of Britain's largest fresh produce distributors. Profits have grown steadily and last year Hunter Saphire made pretax profits of £1.08m against £957,000 in 1982. Customers include Marks and Spencer, J Sainsbury and Tesco with turnover in excess of £60m.

Next month, Hunter Saphire will be coming to the USM via County Bank and Phillips & Drew, the brokers, with a placing of around 12 per cent of the equity. Of this figure around 10 per cent will be new shares. Mr Saphire and his family own nearly 57 per cent of the shares with East Kent Packers another 41 per cent and senior employees just under 3 per cent.

Mr Saphire says a public quote will give Hunter Saphire more flexibility to expand and is part of an agreement struck with East Kent Packers to go public within two years.

## COMPANY NEWS IN BRIEF

● **POLYMARK INTERNATIONAL:** Results for 1983. Turnover £19.95m (£24.34). Pretax loss £426,000 (profit £475,000).

● **GENERAL SCOTTISH TRUST:** Dividend for year to March 31, 1984, unchanged at 3.1p. Gross income £1.14m (£1.1m). Proposed one-for-one scrip issue.

● **FORTNUM & MASON:** Year to Jan 28, 1984. Sales £11.35m (£9.53m). Pretax profit £522,000 (£189,000). Total dividend, 28.5p (23.22p).

● **PEERLESS:** Peerless has conditionally agreed to buy Christfield (UK) and the 50 per cent of Mouldmaking Design Centre not already owned. Price: £250,000 cash on 90,000 Peerless ordinary shares; deferred consideration, based on Mouldmaking's royalty income, not exceeding £120,000. Agreement conditional on shareholders' approval.

● **J.E. ENGLAND & SONS (WELLINGTON):** No dividend for 1983, against 0.88p net last time. Pretax loss £166,000 (loss £143,000). Turnover £5.13m (£4.7m).

● **SCOTTISH MORTGAGE & TRUST:** Pretax revenue for year to March 31, 1984, £7.65m (£6.15m). Dividend, 6.4p (5.8p).

● **FITZWILTON:** Half-year to Dec 31, 1983, 1983 (figures in Irish currency): Pretax profit £295,000 (£348,000). Interim payment 1p (same).

## OTTOMAN BANK

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that, in accordance with Article 29 of the Statutes, the ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING of Shareholders will be held on WEDNESDAY, the 23RD MAY, 1984 in THE VINTNERS' HALL, 68½ UPPER THAMES STREET, LONDON EC4 at 11 a.m. to receive a Report from the Committee with the Accounts for the year ended 31st December 1983; to propose a Dividend; to elect definitively a Member of the Committee in accordance with Article 16 of the Statutes; and to elect Members of the Committee.

By Article 27 of the Statutes the General Meeting is composed of holders, whether in person or by proxy or both together, of at least thirty shares, who, to be entitled to take part in the Meeting, must deposit their shares and, as may be necessary, their proxies at the Head Office of the Company in Istanbul or at any of the branches, or in London at Dunster House, 3rd floor, 37 Mincing Lane, EC3R 7DN or in Paris at 7 rue Mayerbeer, 75009, at least ten days before the date fixed for the Meeting.

The Report of the Committee and the Accounts which will be presented to the General Meeting are available to the Shareholders at the Head Office in Istanbul and at the offices in London and Paris.

T. R. STEPHENS,

24th April 1984 Secretary to the Committee

## Moulinex

During their April 6, 1984 Meeting, the Board of Directors closed the 1983 fiscal year accounts which will be submitted for the approval of the next General Meeting to be held on June 30, 1984. It will propose on that occasion the distribution of a net dividend of FF 4, similar to the one of the preceding fiscal year, supplemented by a FF 2 tax already paid to the Treasury.

MOULINEX SA (FRANCE)		
(in thousands of francs)	1982	1983
PRE-TAX TURNOVER	2,207,982	2,290,788
Development percentage over the preceding		+8.3
fiscal year	56,002	67,771
NET PROFIT AFTER PAYMENT OF TAXES	2.6	3.6
Percentage on turnover		

MOULINEX CONSOLIDATED		
(in thousands of francs)	1982	1983
TURNOVER	2,744,227	2,912,217
Development percentage over the preceding		+6.1
fiscal year	63,158	68,792
NET RESULTS		
(excluding minority interests as percentage		
of turnover)	1.9	2.4

Net profits have increased by 50% for MOULINEX SA over the preceding fiscal year and by 29.4% for the Group. It should be remembered that 1982 had already shown a definite increase over the 1981 fiscal year. All subsidiaries (except Australia) show a profit. Results of the American operation represent about 15% of the consolidated profits. The importance of our efforts in connection with the launching of new products and of our investments (French finance 190 million in 1983) allow us to start the year 1984 under good conditions.

# LONG ON RESOURCES. SHORT ON RED TAPE.

*'That's the difference'*

Next time you're involved in financing an overseas operation, don't make any major decisions before talking to Standard Chartered Bank.

You'll find we can save you valuable time; because as the UK's largest independent international bank, with an established reputation in the Eurocurrency markets, we're likely to have the resources to handle projects of any size and complexity.

Because we have branches in over 60 countries, you'll find us unusually helpful when it comes to providing local or multicurrency finance.

And you'll find some very definite advantages in

the fact that our 1900 branches provide an integrated system that specialises in working with the speed, accuracy and efficiency that international projects or contracts demand, if the opportunities are to outweigh the problems.

In fact, since we can offer everything from currency dealing (in 55 currencies, through 18

locations around the world), through leasing, trade finance and cash transmission, to merchant banking services in eight financial centres, you may well discover that Standard Chartered can make all the difference to your ability to do profitable international business.

That's a difference worth hearing about. Call us soon.

# Standard Chartered

**Direct banking, worldwide**

Standard Chartered Bank PLC Head Office: 10 Clements Lane, London EC4N 7AB.

## Base Lending Rates

ABN Bank	8½%
Barclays	8½%
BCCI	8½%
Citibank Savings	9½%
Consolidated Crds	8½%
Continental Trust	8½%
C. Hoare & Co	8½%
Lloyds Bank	8½%
Midland Bank	8½%
Nat Westminster	8½%
TSB	8½%
Williams & Glyn's	8½%

† Mortgage Base Rates.

\* 1 year deposits on basis of £10,000, 6%: £10,000 up to £20,000, 6½%; £20,000 and over, 7½%.

## "Investing in Success" Equities PLC

25th Annual Report Year to 31 January 1984

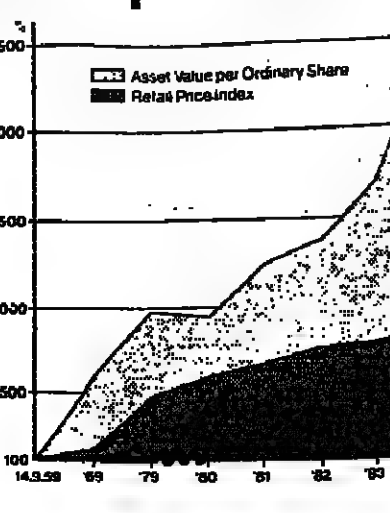
**Total Assets Value £40.25m**  
**Net Assets per Share 591.8p**  
**Dividend increased to 7.6p**

The Japanese market has risen steadily throughout the year: company profits are increasing significantly and the country is active and prosperous... At home there are signs of increasing production and most company profits are rising...

For the next 12 months I am confident of further progress.

R. C. Vickers MC, Chairman

Copies of the Accounts are available from: City Financial Administration Limited, Regis House, King William Street, London EC4R 9AR.





ahead  
itch

# A slowdown in the US would mean boost for London financial markets

ORDINARY SHARES

Bob Cowell

The Budget was a good one for equities and the immediate response in the market was easily predictable. Since this time, however, the indices have experienced a two-way pull. The news from the corporate sector, particularly in relation to dividends, has been excellent. Elsewhere, developments have not been as helpful.

The problem is not so much the NUM dispute - where organized labour looks set ultimately to sustain a notable setback - but relates instead to developments in the US. First quarter figures show the economy there to have been running at full tilt and at levels which prejudice its medium term outlook. The Fed, acting entirely correctly, has squeezed credit and the result has been a sharp rise in interest rates.

In due course activity will decline but, for the moment, it is the currency which is taking the strain, and the conjunction of high interest rates and a resilient currency has presented the authorities elsewhere with substantial problems.

In Britain, the Chancellor is caught in something of an awkward spot having recently lowered rates. In the near term it looks as if he is prepared to see sterling soften, confident that the favourable economic fundamentals will preserve financial stability to some degree. There must, however, be a limit to which currency weakness can be tolerated.

If the Chancellor's 4½ per cent inflation figure becomes visibly threatened (and the Hoare Govett estimate for the year-end is presently around 7½ per cent then, given its key position within the government's priorities, it is possible that action will be taken to limit money growth sufficiently to correct the position.

## 'Dividends, the best indicator of confidence, are signposting a state of euphoria'

Even without the possibility of further weakness in sterling arising from the US position, the pressure stemming from higher pay settlements and sharply higher commodity prices could become quite embarrassing. The only option if the lid is to be put on inflation is to squeeze credit and the first result of such a squeeze, as demonstrated in New York, is a setback in security prices. It is the corrective action rather than the higher inflation rate which is bad for equity markets.

Given the buoyant state of the corporate sector in both profit and liquidity terms, any such setback is most unlikely to develop into a bear market such as those seen in the 1960s and early 70s - rather, there could be an extended period of consolidation. A realistic target range for the market over the next six months would be 475-525 in All-Share Index terms.

Having said this, the medium term outlook is still thought to be fairly encouraging. If, as seems likely, the US economy is about to slow down, pressure on US interest rates should shortly be dissipated. If that happens, the London financial markets, helped by capital inflows from overseas, could stage an impressive recovery. The index, after a phase of dull consolidation, could be set for new ground by the end of 1984. It is unlikely this would be maintained far into 1985 given that we will then be experiencing the combination of slowing world growth and inflation trending higher - hardly a bull market environment. The index looks set to fall in absolute terms next year although we may remain in the top quartile of the world stock market league.

So much for the economics position. What of the corporate sector? Dividends, as the best indicator of boardroom confidence, are clearly signposting a state of euphoria at the present time. There are always those who raise dividends to cover their corporate backslides against possible takeover threats and this results season has seen a few of these. But this is no way to explain away what has generally been happening in recent weeks. The market as a whole now looks as if dividends will be increased by around 11 per cent in relation to 1983 trading - a far cry from pre-control days when 5 per cent was deemed plenty high enough.

Hoare Govett has been echoing the virtues of the British dividend since 1981. With British recovery leading that in the rest of the world, the heavy capital spending programmes of earlier years coupled with reduced labour numbers have given a massive surge in productivity and this has become all the more evident as exceptional costs taken above the line have diminished.

In the terms of the numbers, FT-A All-Share Index earnings probably grew by 21 per cent last year with dividends up by 11 per cent. The overall figures mask some even more dramatic improvements at sub-group level. For example, capital goods earnings were up 27 per cent, while other groups were

ahead by fully 50 per cent. In contrast, financials dragged back the totals with only a 2 per cent advance. Profit growth is now past its peak and in the current year an earnings gain of around 15 per cent would be a realistic expectation for the total market. Dividend growth, however, may be even faster than 1984 - the Hoare Govett estimate is presently 13 per cent.

The balance sheet picture is one of dramatic improvement. Liquidity has never been better and we estimate that income gearing will be down to 8 per cent by the year-end for industrial group constituents with the (less important) capital gearing ratio down around the 15 per cent level.

The Budget has left overall growth expectations and consumer spending forecasts have remained unchanged, so there is no reason to tinker with volume expectations for most industrial group constituents. The Budget's implications for the majority of companies lie squarely in the finance director's office. Disclosure levels in report and accounts make it impossible to quantify the effect of the corporation tax changes in any detail.

Allowances carried forward and ACT written off are two of the items available to assist those who, at first sight, might have been considered losers. With so much attention being focussed on individual companies, the overall fiscal message for the corporate sector has been in danger of being lost.

In a period of low inflation, the cut in tax rates significantly outweighs loss of stock relief, while the timing problems of revised first year allowances will cause cash flow discomfort for some and change the shape of more than a few balance sheets. Elsewhere, NIS abolition is helpful to all.

The market is currently trading on an actual price earnings ratio of 11.1 which on Hoare Govett estimates will fall to 9.7 by the year end. On the same time frame, the yield on the equity market is set to rise from 4.6 per cent today to 5.2 per cent.

One principal theme of sector strategy at the present time should be a switch in emphasis back towards some of the large traditional growth sectors which fell so dramatically from favour when extremely rapid progress was recorded by many of the more cyclical counters. For example, the bear market in electronics and health and household sectors look to be over. As earnings growth for the market as a whole becomes more difficult to achieve, these sectors will regain their normal position at the top of the earnings league.

In contrast, it is possible to list types of companies worth avoiding at this relatively mature stage of a bull market when spectacular profits growth has passed peak (although still being reported for last year). This includes companies:

- Where recovery is still eagerly awaited (it is too late).
  - In manufacturing without product innovation skills (rationalization will have afforded only one-off benefits).
  - Which are not spending adequately on capital investment in relation to their existing capital base (will not remain competitive).
  - Which have experienced exceptionally buoyant trading conditions on the back of the British consumer boom and where ratings look to be discounting growth at similar levels in the future (room for disappointment in 1985-86).
  - Which are financially stretched (when inflation and interest rates may soon be trending higher).
  - Which have experienced union problems (UK wage pressures already evident).
- Against this background it is possible to review Hoare Govett's present sector strategy. Post the Budget speech the buying case for life assurance was put into abeyance - the impact of LAPR abolition was impossible to assess. However, it has subsequently become clear that executives within the industry are not too concerned about this measure and the dividend increases during the results season can only be described as phenomenal. Dividend growth is the key element and given the outlook over the next two to three years in this respect, the sector should once again be bought. Prudential and Legal & General are our naps. Elsewhere in financials, composites will struggle through some unpleasant first quarter figures and may pause for a while after their good run; banks will remain friendless for the time being, nursing their weakened balance sheets; while property shares look about right.

In the consumer areas, the swing back into favour of both tobacco and health and household has a great deal further to go - BATs, Glaxo and Smith & Nephew are major buys. That arguments are straightforward. In different ways, both the tobacco majors are emerging as better run businesses with clear direction and policies. A much better balance is already evident and the wide discounts against

the market norm are simply not justified.

As overall profits growth for the market becomes more difficult these changes will become increasingly apparent. In the same way, the outstanding growth prospects afforded to Glaxo by its current drug portfolio will become far more obvious during the course of the next two to three years. If there is any surge in US buying of non-domestic equities later this year these stocks should see their fair share of the action.

Looking round the other consumer sub-groups, holdings in a prospectively dull stores sector should be consolidated away from the more volatile durable retailers towards the likes of Marks & Spencer and Sainsbury. In sector terms, food manufacturing and retailing are unlikely to be major gainers or losers this year although Cadbury Schweppes could attract a US following and Argill continues to look good value.

Structural changes in textiles have not yet been fully recognized by the market and shares such as Coats Patons and Dawson International remain on the buy list. The major brewers look relatively unexcit-

ing but the distilling end of things is beginning to look more attractive with DCL the core holding and Belts and Highland buys.

Electronics in the form of Racal, STC and Electrocomp dominate the positive recommendations in the capital goods area. During the current year this sector will be back above the median line in terms of earnings growth and by 1985 will be well back towards the top of the league. Good relative performance is expected over this period.

The miscellaneous and other industrial materials sectors always require an individual company approach - BTR, Hanson Trust and T&N look good value today.

The contracting sector is beginning to demonstrate an ability to move profits forward again, largely through diversification policies funded out of the cash flow from shrinking mainstream operations, so things look brighter than for some time. At the materials end, it is difficult to see much relative sector performance over the remainder of 1984 but Blue Circle, RM and Tarmac would be our choices. The

engineering pitch has been buoyant in patches but our message is unchanged: those companies without good positions in specialized world markets should be sold.

Finally, oil and mining finance remain good hedges against rising world inflation rates. It has not been surprising to see performance from both sectors in the first quarter of the year and this looks set to continue, certainly for the duration of the current year. BP, Britoil and RTZ would be the main recommendations.

As far as chemicals are concerned, although ICI continues to look under-rated there is unlikely to be significant relative strength until the extent of the eventual downturn can be more readily assessed than is the case today. BOC is still attractively rated.

On top of traditional analysis and sector picking, it has been the Hoare Govett policy over the last few years to talk in terms of an injection or withdrawal of resources at individual company level and not just in economic assessments. Such changes can result from new management, acquisition policy, structural change in industry or merely windfall gains/losses.

There is always a list of stocks where the market has not recognized such fundamental

change and the consequent implications on a longer term basis. The re-rating that can ensue is often staggered and some of the stocks on the list today are already well on their way in terms of market performance. The attraction of these situations is a prospect of the double impact of rapid profits progress geared up by re-rating. The current list of such stocks is as follows:

Argill Group (Argill/ADP merger)  
Burnett & Hallamshire (management change)  
Electrocomponents (move to Corby)  
Guinness (management change)  
IC Gas (Maureen production)  
Imperial Group (management change)  
P & O (management change)  
Ranks Hovis (clever disposals)  
Tarmac (acquisition policy)  
Wimpey (management change)

We expect to see all the stocks in this list outperform the market averages over the next 18 months/two years as the market fully appreciates the changes that have taken place to improve their longer term prospects.

The author is Director of Investment Research for Hoare Govett.

## SCOTTISH PROVIDENT

The 146th ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING of MEMBERS of THE SCOTTISH PROVIDENT INSTITUTION will be held on TUESDAY 15th May 1984 at 2.30 pm in the HEAD OFFICE, 6 ST. ANDREW SQUARE, EDINBURGH EH2 2YA

Copies of the Report and Accounts are available from this address.

J.M. MACHARG  
General Manager and Actuary

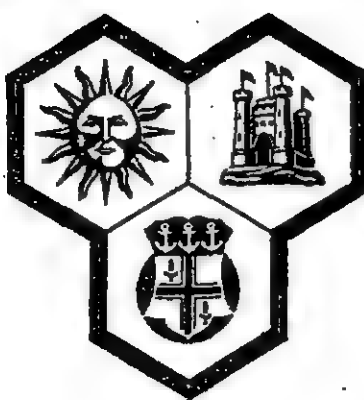
6 St. Andrew Square, Edinburgh EH2 2YA  
17th April, 1984

## SCOTTISH AMICABLE LIFE ASSURANCE SOCIETY

### NOTICE OF MEETING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the One Hundred and Fifty-eighth Annual General Meeting of the Members will be held in 150 St. Vincent Street, Glasgow G2 5NQ on Wednesday, 25th April, 1984 at Noon

By Order of the Directors  
W. PROUDFOOT  
Chief General Manager and Actuary  
150 St. Vincent Street, Glasgow  
G2 5NQ, 14th March, 1984.



# SUN ALLIANCE INSURANCE GROUP

## Comments by the Chairman - Lord Aldington

In opening my statement last year, I said that world insurance markets were in a bad way. In 1983, there was a limited change for the better, but only in some areas. In Sun Alliance we have reduced our underwriting loss from £70.9m to £67.4m and at the same time achieved a small real increase in premiums in a number of sectors of business without departing from the policy of responsible underwriting. Although this reflects an excellent performance by our staff and compares well with our major competitors, it also reflects a far from satisfactory situation in world insurance markets. We can take comfort both from modest signs of better intentions, and from limited signs of action, as well as from our performance in most of the home market; but our reinsurance business has continued to prove how right were my warnings in earlier years and in September last. We have sharply cut back on reinsurance. We expect losses in the future to be much reduced. We shall need much more evidence of longer term recovery before we seek to expand there.

Our investment performance was again good and the markets were favourable. Our solvency margin at the end of 1983 was 125%. The combination of a reduced underwriting loss, an increase in the Life business contribution and an £11.4m increase in investment income led to a profit before tax of £73.4m compared with £56.8m in 1982. I must emphasise once again the strength of our asset position both in allowing us wider opportunities in investment and in giving us a solid base for expansion when the markets make that sensible.

### DIVIDEND

The Directors have resolved to declare a total dividend of 56p per share which compares with 48p paid for 1982 - an increase of 16.7%. An interim dividend of 22p was paid in January and the final dividend of 34p will be paid on 5th July next.

Your Directors hope that the strong asset position of the Group will enable them to continue a steady increase in the dividend, even while the world insurance markets remain in a poor state.

### RECENT DEVELOPMENTS

There are those who see the long term outlook for insurance and insurance companies as bleak. We do not. For this Group we see a profitable future with sound growth. Certainly we shall not be able to return to the trading patterns of the 1970's. In those years developments both in the industrialised and third world countries brought fundamental and permanent changes but they are changes to which we can and do respond. New communications technology has opened up new fields in world-wide insurance marketing. Our business has always been international and is becoming more so. Insurance buyers and sellers throughout the world are in almost instant communication and capacity available in Singapore or New York is often as readily available to a London broker as capacity in the City of London itself.

It is not therefore surprising that one of the rapidly developing areas in our Group is the International Department, dealing with composite insurance programmes for large companies with operations in many parts of the globe. This department, working in conjunction with our companies, branches and agencies all over the world, enables us to respond promptly to the insurance requirements of companies producing an infinite variety of products and services under differing systems of law and trading practices. Much concern has been expressed about the development of self-insurance and captive companies. Certainly these have had an impact on traditional insurance markets. They have emerged as a natural development following the growth of industrial companies by merger and acquisition. Much of this development has been logical and healthy; and we accept the challenge to provide viable alternatives or, where appropriate, to provide new services in partnership with industry and other financial institutions.

We are encouraged by the way in which the limits of insurability are being pushed ever onwards. We are constantly devising underwriting techniques for new kinds of risk for developing industries like electronics,

energy and space exploration; and there is, in practically all areas of insurance, a growing trend away from cover for specific perils towards insurance against loss in its much wider sense.

It is generally accepted that had underwriting results have been due largely to competition in a world market awash with insurance and reinsurance capacity, itself created because too many have ill-advisedly put too much reliance on investment income to offset these results. We must, however, be careful not to blame all our troubles on one cause. Over the last few years underwriting performances have slipped and London must accept its duty to lead the industry back to the best underwriting standards. For though many of the conditions have gone which first made London the centre of world insurance, the reputation for trading integrity and professional expertise which remains, and must be maintained, gives London a special place in the insurance world.

### LIFE ASSURANCE

We question the wisdom of the Chancellor in abolishing for the future, and without prior consultation with the life assurance industry, life assurance premium relief. The relief was introduced nearly 200 years ago and is as old as income tax; it has provided vital encouragement to millions of people to buy protection and security from their own resources rather than rely upon the State.

The following is a quote from William Pitt's introduction of the Income Duty Bill of 1799 in which, after extolling the virtues of a tax on incomes, he said:-

... there is one case which with a view to that class who are really willing to save for the benefit of those for whom they are bound to provide, makes some modification. It is in favour of those who have recourse to that easy, certain and advantageous mode of providing for their families by insuring their lives. In this bill, as in the assessed taxes, a deduction is allowed for what is paid on this account.

We find it curious that a government dedicated to persuading its fellow-citizens to "stand on their own feet" should so arbitrarily abandon William Pitt's principles. This tax concession has admittedly in recent years become a significant feature in some of the shorter term contracts but we believe the concession should and could have been retained for appropriate long term life and savings policies. It is not usually wise to let the baby go out with the bathwater, just because one does not like the bathwater.

Some of the companies in the Sun Alliance Group had themselves been trading for nearly a century before William Pitt introduced life assurance policy relief. During that time wars, governments and Chancellors have come and gone and we have survived and prospered under constantly changing environments. We shall continue to do so.

### CONCLUSION

During 1983 we have been able to achieve a number of the major objectives we set ourselves at the beginning of the year. At home we have won some real increase in premiums and have improved overall our underwriting and marketing performance. In direct marketing we have taken a lead. At the same time we have taken advantage of the latest developments in computer technology and benefited from the reorganisation which was completed in 1982.

In Europe, Canada, Australia and in several other territories results have been better and in the United States of America, a marked improvement in most classes of business was overshadowed by severe weather losses and medical malpractice reserving requirements. The wholesale revision of our reinsurance operations has been completed and the action taken has reduced substantially the size of our portfolio.

Our Marine business continues to be well managed and in difficult circumstances a break-even result was achieved. Our Life business has grown at an unprecedented rate helped by the changes in tax relief on mortgage payments. We should not, however, allow the growth from this source to blind us to the excellent expansion in other areas of our Life account.

## Summary of Results - 1983

	1983 £m	1982 £m
Premium Income		
General Insurance	884.8	789.9
Long-term Insurance	294.3	208.0
	<b>1,179.1</b>	<b>997.9</b>
General Insurance Underwriting Result	(67.4)	(70.9)
Long-term Insurance Profits	8.5	7.0
Investment Income	131.3	119.9
Other Income	1.0	0.8
Profit before Taxation	73.4	56.8
Taxation and Minority Interests	27.4	20.8
Profit attributable to Shareholders	46.0	36.0
Dividend	27.6	23.7
Profit Retained	18.4	12.3
Earnings per Share	93.3p	73.0p
Dividend per Share	56.0p	48.0p

The Annual General Meeting of Sun Alliance and London Insurance plc will be held on 16th May, 1984 at the Head Office, Bartholomew Lane, London EC2.







# Swansea feel the backlash as Barbarians answer critics

## A back row with a forward look

## Boys' own annual time

It is unfortunate that the polo boys from five countries do not have regular fixtures every season. The Irish, for instance, having beaten Scotland and England, will not test their outstanding back against France or Wales who meet at Bridgend tomorrow in the

## Quins ring down curtain with flourish

Newbridge 35, Cross Keys 4  
 New Brighton 12, Waspas 24  
 Newport 15, London Welsh 8  
 Northampton 12, West Ham 24  
 Northampton 23, Crell 14  
 Newtonton 13, Bedford 9  
 Pontypool 18, Llanesoler 0  
 Pontypool 8, Bridgend 55  
 Swansea 25, Newport 21  
 Swansea 13, Barbarians 40  
 Torquay 23, Otley 27  
 Watford 21, Sheffield 15  
 Vale of Lune 28, Bradford and Bingley 8.

Carling, England's captain, scored his first try, and though the French engineered two excellent tries, both converted. Hobbs kicked two penalties and Bennett on the left wing rounded off a move begun by Robby and his back row three minutes into injury time.

## Bottom line for baseline queen

## Lure of McEnroe Tough going

Dallas, (Reuter)—John McEnroe seeded first in the revitalized fourth, in a field which includes Vitas Gerulaitis, Eliot Teltscher, Bill **for juniors**

Will Paolo Rossi recover from his injury? Injured ankle in time to start the Juventus attack and away was start again against Dundee United, confirmed that "we were naturally thinking of Wednesday. For us, Wednesday has become the match

Falcao, absent at Avellino, is somewhat popular in Rome. In

[illegible]

**ITALIAN:** Avellino 2, Roma 2, Catania 1, Genoa 2, Fiorentina 1, Inter Milan 1, Juventus 3, Udinese 2, Lazio 3, Napoli 2, AC Milan 0, Ascoli 2.

**MOTOR RACING**

**Thackwell makes a winning choice**

By Jeremy Shaw

warms, sunny conditions, he proved crucial, several drivers having to stop for new tires during the 55 laps. Nevertheless, after his cautious conservatism, Michelín's new Super Street tires shined on softer tyres, and then behind the winner after stopping for a new Bridgestone tyre.

In the British Formula Three, sponsored by Maxwell, Johnny Dumfries again underlined his superiority, taking a 1-2-3 victory in the first of the three races of the year. After the Canadian driver, Allen Berg, spun on the

(12.57.00)  
12.58.00  
12.59.00

BRITISH FORMULA THREE  
CHAMPIONSHIP Round five (50 laps): J. J. Dumfries (Rothmans-Goodyear), 24min 57.51sec  
25.00.00 A. Berg (Rothmans-Goodyear), 25.00.00  
25.01.00 S. A. Cooper (Scott), 25.01.00  
25.03.00 R. P. Headrich (Rothmans-Goodyear), 25.03.00  
25.04.00 J. M. St. John (Rothmans-Goodyear), 25.04.00  
25.05.00 C. A. Abella (Rothmans-Goodyear) RT 30, 25.05.00  
Fastest lap: Flynn, 1min 14.75sec (11.52.00)

# Faldo can walk as tall as a pine

Severely handicapped after a similar path when he recovered from 16 strokes behind at the halfway stage to win the Greater Greensboro Open in 1978. It convinced the Spaniard that he could beat anybody, as he proved when he won the Open a year later and the US Masters in 1980 and 1983.

"I was more delighted with my attitude this time," he said. "I was

...I should play more often. I barely had a thought all day about



SIXTH LEGS 1. Roberts 18:41.76 (94.22 mph);  
2. Lawson 18:43.08 (94.29); 3. Gardner

**Faldo: big breakthrough**

**Ballesteros in**

**MOTOR RACING**  
MONZA: 1,000 km endurance race: (Portugal)

[illegible]

**GYMNASTICS**

**RUGBY UNION**

**15 MATCHES:** Pancras v St  
B Hospital; St Yves v St Thomas's  
Hospital.

# Canadian youngsters surprises the world

The British, who were fielding ten of their top horses—as against six American—the second spring-only event was won by the English team, which was captained and led by Malcolm Pyrah.

Towerlands Anglezarke who never put a foot wrong throughout three days of competition but did not make up for his slow time in the opening speed class.

Nick Skelton, in similar fashion, after the first round,

to hang suspended in mid-air for eternity before landing. They appeared in any danger of touch with a fence and finished with the clean round.

Of the other British riders, Dieter Broome and Last Resort collected four faults in the first round, eight in the second, finished twenty-third.

RESULTS: 1, M Desmarais (Can) 4 2 and 3, M Desmarais (Can) 0

Dedo Jolo (US) and N Passos (Br) 5; Ruying (WIG) 6.50; 5 equal, M Pyrah (GB) and M Mitz (USA) 7.50; 7. M. Gledhill (CAN) 8.50; 8. M. Gledhill (CAN) 9.50; 9. M. Gledhill (CAN) 10.50; 10. M. Gledhill (CAN) 11.50; 11. M. Gledhill (CAN) 12.50; 12. M. Gledhill (CAN) 13.50; 13. M. Gledhill (CAN) 14.50; 14. M. Gledhill (CAN) 15.50; 15. M. Gledhill (CAN) 16.50; 16. M. Gledhill (CAN) 17.50; 17. M. Gledhill (CAN) 18.50; 18. M. Gledhill (CAN) 19.50; 19. M. Gledhill (CAN) 20.50; 20. M. Gledhill (CAN) 21.50; 21. M. Gledhill (CAN) 22.50; 22. M. Gledhill (CAN) 23.50; 23. M. Gledhill (CAN) 24.50; 24. M. Gledhill (CAN) 25.50; 25. M. Gledhill (CAN) 26.50; 26. M. Gledhill (CAN) 27.50; 27. M. Gledhill (CAN) 28.50; 28. M. Gledhill (CAN) 29.50; 29. M. Gledhill (CAN) 30.50; 30. M. Gledhill (CAN) 31.50; 31. M. Gledhill (CAN) 32.50; 32. M. Gledhill (CAN) 33.50; 33. M. Gledhill (CAN) 34.50; 34. M. Gledhill (CAN) 35.50; 35. M. Gledhill (CAN) 36.50; 36. M. Gledhill (CAN) 37.50; 37. M. Gledhill (CAN) 38.50; 38. 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**MOTOR CYCLING**  
**Americans**  
**hand out**

Donington Park yesterday, to

(J.S., Yamaha) 18:43.90; K. Roberts (Yamaha) 18:49.44; A. J. Hansen (GB) 18:53.84; S. W. Gardner (Aust., Honda) 18:55.00; R. Palmer (GB) 18:55.66 (m.p.).

2. J. Mammola 18:44.66 (32.96 m.p.); 2. m. 18:44.97; 3. R. Roberts 18:53.62; 4. m. 18:57.00; 5. Gardner 18:50.85; 6. R. M. Lea (GB, Honda) 18:57.07. Fastest lap: 18:44.66.

LEO 1. Roberts 18:41.78 (94.22 mph);  
Johnson 18:43.08 (94.29); 3. Gardner

CYCLING		ICE HOCKEY	
<p>4. Tour of Spain, fifth stage (Spanish)            1. L. Sotomayor (Spain) 6 hr 41 min            2. F. Moser (Swi) 3. M. Vital (nld) 4. R.uge (Bel) 5. Y. Berlin (Frc) 6. S. Angotta,            (Italy) 7. E. Schari (Ger) 8. Quirza (Col)            9. M. Poterstein (Belg) 10. S. Stenlund (Swe)            3. Vital, both same time; 4. Lickness,            5. N. deJongh (Neth) 6. B. Van            den Broek (Belg) 7. S. Stenlund (Swe)            8. 24-43-24 9. 21-39-30 10. 28-34-23 11. 28-34-23</p>	<p>NATIONAL LEAGUE: Playoff Games: Nor-            western: 1. Vancouver 2. Minnesota North Stars 4, 3            1. Los Angeles 2. St. Louis 4, 3            Division Final: Edmonton Oilers 7, Calgary            Flames 4 (Oilers win 4-3).</p>		
<p>EUROPEAN JUVENIOR CHAMPIONSHIP            Edinburgh: Britain 6, Spain 3, Fife: Hungary            Belgium 5.</p>			

## MOTOR RACING

[illegible]

## GYMNASTICS

**FOOTBALL**  
**WORLD CUP:** Asia-Oceania Olympic qualifying group "B": 1. Qatar 2, Iraq 0.



# Racing: Sisters first and third on father's horses in Fairyhouse Grand National

## Rousillon's slow start makes it easy for Siberian Express

From Desmond Stoneham, French Racing Correspondent, Paris

Siberian Express totally regained his reputation by winning yesterday's Poule d'Essai des Poulains (French 2000 Guineas) in most courageous fashion and at the same time broke the course record for the French classic. Mahmoud Fustok not only owns the winner but also the second, Groos Paradise, and both these colts are trained by André Fabre, who has now won seven group races in France this season.

The English colt, Rousillon, was backed down to 5-2 favourite, but lost his chance at the start by being slow away from the stalls. There was drama after the race as the connections of Mendez objected to the winner, but this was overruled by the stewards after a short time.

Before the Poule d'Essai was run, it was freely known that Siberian Express was giving enormous amounts of weight away on the home gallops and still rousing useful older horses. There were many who thought after the Prix de Fontainebleau, when Siberian Express was a distant third to Mendez and Nikos, that the colt had lost his will to race. However, as Fabre explained: "I was too soft on Siberian Express in early training and he is certainly a different proposition on firm ground. The colt's courage is no longer in doubt".

Siberian Express earned his reputation when he ran away with last August's Prix de la Deuville. The colt was then second to Seattle Song in the Prix de la Salamandre and was not at his best when third in El Gran Señor and Rainbow Quest in the Dewhurst Stakes. Siberian Express runs next in the Prix Lupin and the beaten Green Paradise, who was beaten three-quarters of a length in yesterday's race, may also be in the line-up for the 10½ furlong classic trial.

I believe Cash Asmusen was rather embarrassed by the obvious lack of Siberian Express and certainly Phil Nearchos was one of the first people to congratulate Mahmoud Fustok.

Asmusen thought that Mendez had never been better and this colt would also run in the Lupin. Bountiful took fourth place and John Fellows will now send this colt over for the 2000 Guineas at Newmarket on May 5.

Rousillon was beaten only about three lengths and he had very little chance of making up his lost ground as the field were taken along at such a fast pace. Pat Eddery, his rider, said: "He leapt on the back of the stalls just as they opened and we lost in fact the equivalent of about six lengths". Guy Harwood still intends to run Rousillon in group one company and the colt could be back to France for the Prix Jean Prat.

Wearing blinkers for the first time Yawa ran an excellent second to Magwal, another Fabre-trained horse. In the fifteen-and-a-half furlong Prix Jean Prat, Philip Waldron just held the lead at the furlong post, but could not hold the late challenge of Magwal, who went on to win by three lengths. Waldron thought that but for weight and the firm ground Yawa would have been much closer.

Criquette Head reports her 1,000 Guineas prospect, L'Orange, in top form and the filly has apparently made excellent progress since winning the Prix Imprudence. François Boutin will not make a decision as to whether Priscilla will contest the 3000 Guineas until the colt has worked either next Thursday or Friday morning.

**Longchamp results**  
GOLFING: POULE D'ESSAI DES POULAINS (Group 1, 3-yrs) 1. Siberian Express (c) by Caro - Indian Cal (M Fustok) 5-2.  
2. Groos Paradise (c) by Vign - Tel Alard (L. M. Fustok) 6-2.  
3. Yawa (m) 3-1.  
4. Rousillon (c) by Vign - Tel Alard (L. M. Fustok) 5-2.  
5. Nikos (c) by Vign - Tel Alard (L. M. Fustok) 5-2.  
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374. John Fellows (c) by











Today's television and radio programmes

Summaries: Peter Dear & Peter Davalle

BBC 1

6.00 **Ceefax** AM news headlines, weather, traffic and sports bulletins. Also available to viewers with television sets without the teletext facility.

6.30 **Breakfast Time** with Frank Bough and Selina Scott. News from Fern Britton at 6.30, 7.00, 7.30, 8.00 and 8.30 with headlines on the quarter hours; sport at 6.40 and 7.40; regional news, weather and traffic at 6.45, 7.15, 7.45 and 8.15; television preview at 6.55; review of the morning newspapers at 7.15 and 8.15; horoscopes at 8.35; food and cooking and financial advice between 8.30 and 9.00.

9.00

**Battle of the Planets** An animated science fiction adventure entitled *Things with 1,000 Eyes*. 9.20 **Look Back** with Nookes on board the Plesides between Port St Mary and Rathlin Island (r) 9.50 **Cartoon**: *Lighty Mouse* in *Feudin' Hobbies* (r) 10.00 **Why Don't You...?** Boys and girls from Bristol with entertaining ideas for bored youngsters.

10.25

**Ivor the Engine** (r) 10.30 **Play School**, presented by Iain Lauchlin (r) 10.55 **Songs of Peace** from Shankill Road Belfast (shown Sunday) 11.30 **Gardeners' World** (shown yesterday) 11.55 **Ceefax**.

12.30 **News After Noon** with Richard Whitmore and Sarah Marshall. The weather prospects come from Bill Giles 12.57 **Regional News** (London and SE only). Financial report followed by news headlines with subtitles. 1.00 **Pebble Mill** at one. Includes the first finalist in the Dettol Young Carers Awards and Harry James with the last in his "Easy" series 1.45 **Little Misses** and the *Mister Men* (r).

2.00

**Animal Magic in Japan**. Jimmy Morris and Terry Nutkin with two dolphins destined for a British sea lion (1965) starring Marshall Thompson. Light-hearted adventures in an African nature reserve. Directed by Andrew Marton 3.53 **Regional News** (not London).

3.55

**Play School** presented by Chloe Ashcroft 4.20 **The Hunter**.

4.25 **Professor Popper's Problems** Part four of the comedy series starring Charles Drake 4.40 **Chuggers** Play Pops. Gullies and pop music with Gullie and Rocky Sharpe 5.05 **John Craven's Newsround** 5.10 **Think Again**. Johnny Ball with all you wanted to know about Doors.

5.40

**Sixty Minutes** includes news read by Moira Stuart at 5.40.

6.40 **Young Musician of the Year** 1984 Humphrey Burton introduces the piano final.

7.15 **Wildlife on One**. David Attenborough takes us into the secret world of the scorpion (r).

7.40

**A Question of Sport** Emlyn Hughes' team is Viv Anderson and Mike Ratner; Bill Beaumont is John Whitaker and Bev Callender.

8.10 **Dallas Cliff's money** is running out while JR primes Lucy as part of his play to destroy Peter.

9.00

**News** with Nicholas Witchell.

9.25 **Film: Death of a Centurion** (1981) starring Jamie Lee Curtis as Dorothy Stratten in the true story of the Playboy Bunny who was killed by her husband who was jealous of her success. The first showing on British television. Directed by Gabrielle Beaumont.

11.00

**This Wooden O**. A documentary about the Shakespeare Globe project. Presented by Derek Jacobi. (See Choice).

11.45

**News** headlines and weather.

tv-am

6.25 **Good Morning Britain** presented by Anne Diamond and Nick Owen. News from Gordon Honeycombe at 6.30, 7.00, 7.30, 8.00, 8.30 and 9.00; sport at 6.35 and 7.35; exercises at 6.50 and 8.55; the guest Jools Holland at 7.40; Marilyn and Duran Duran on video at 7.55; inside Jools Holland's house at 8.10; video report at 8.35; cooking with Rustie Lee at 8.40, 9.00 and 9.15.

ITV/LONDON

9.25 **Thames news** headlines followed by *Sesame Street* where the Muppets make learning a pleasure. 10.25 **Film: Angela's Ashes** (1992) starring Laurence and Hardy. Directed by Lewis R Foster 10.50 **East of Eden**. The parade of the horrors and cars in London's Regent's Park (r) 11.05 **Torrell and Dean**. A repeat of the documentary, presented by Simon Reed, that examines the life and work of the talented skaters.

12.00

**Orn and Cheep**. Puss adventures of a bird and a worm 12.10 **Rainbow**. Presented by puppets (r) 12.30 **The Sullivan**. Drama series about an Australian family during World War Two.

1.00

**Thames news** with Carol Barnes 1.20 **Thames news** from Robin Houston 1.30 **AM**. Gill Nevill and her guests discuss the Government's proposals for future legislation on animal experiments.

2.00

**Take the High Road**. Will Isabel receive the long awaited present from Brian? 2.30 **The Love Boat** 3.30 **Millie Take Longer**. Drama series set in a community advice bureau.

4.00

**Orn and Cheep**. A repeat of the programme shown at noon 4.15 **Adventure**. Adventures of an eccentric inventor (r) 4.30 **How Dare You**. Magic and mayhem presented by Nicola Benjamin 4.45 **CBTV** with a group of youngsters visiting the Pope in Rome (r). 5.15 **Emmerdale Farm**. Worries at lambing time.

5.45

**News** 6.00 **Thames news** with Andrew Gardner and Tina Jenkins 6.30 **Help** Vn Taylor. Gae with news of the national Cystic Fibrosis Week.

6.30

**Crossroads**. Does Paul Ross know he is playing a dangerous game with Doug Brady?

6.55 **Reporting London** presented by Michael Barrett. Reporter Graham Addcock has been investigating the work done by the Thames region's 20 Euro MPs and whether or not this work has any significance in Strasbourg.

7.30

**Give Us a Clue**. Celebrity mime game, chaired by Michael Aspel. Line Stubbs' team consists of Sylvia Sims, Joanne Whalley and Barbara Windsor. Lionel Blair has Christopher Biggins, Martin Jarvis and Spike Milligan on his side (r).

8.00

**Hollywood or Bust**. Bruce Forsyth coaches and gives volunteers from the audience in scenes from classic Hollywood films.

8.50 **The Adventures of Sherlock Holmes**. The first of a new seven-part drama series starring Jeremy Brett as the Baker Street detective. Tonight he investigates *A Scandal in Bohemia* (See Choice).

10.00

**News** followed by Thames news headlines.

10.30 **Film: Julia** (1977) starring Jane Fonda and Vanessa Redgrave as Lilian Hellman and her friend Julia who became involved in resistance against the Nazis in the Thirties. With Meryl Streep in her first screen role. Directed by Fred Zinneman.

12.40

**Night Thoughts**



Jeremy Brett and David Burke on ITV at 9.00pm

BBC 2

9.00 **Ceefax**.

10.25 **World Snooker**. The Embassy World Professional Snooker Championship introduced by David Lister from the Crucible Theatre, Sheffield. Uninterrupted coverage until 5.35, beginning with the final session of the match between Hargrave and Neal Foulds; and the start of the Jimmy White/Rex Williams game. At about 2.30 David Vine talks to experts about the game, its rules and history and answers viewers' letters on any aspect of the game. Live action in the afternoon are the games involving Doug Mountjoy and Eddie Charlton. The commentators are Ted Lowe, Jack Kamehn and Clive Everton.

5.35

**News** summary with subtitles.

5.40 **Speak Out**. The first of a new series, chaired by John Craven, in which young people air their views. This evening's discussion, recorded at a local London comprehensive school, is a follow-up to a school's mock United Nations conference on the world hunger problem. Among those taking part are two of the cast of *Grange Hill*, Steven Woodcock and Susan Tully, Dr David Bellamy and Taz Vitchai, deputy director of UNICEF in New York.

6.10

**Paddies Up**. Canoeing competition over a specially constructed course on the River Dee, Llangollen (r).

6.40 **Tucker's Luck**. Busy as he is working on a building site as road manager of Creamy's pop group, Tucker still finds it easy to get himself into trouble.

7.05

**World Snooker**. David Vine introduces highlights of this afternoon's play in the matches involving Eddie Charlton and Doug Mountjoy plus, at 7.30, live coverage of Jimmy White's game.

7.40

**Down by the Mersey-side**. Chris Kelly presents the International Garden Festival, Liverpool.

8.10 **Bookmark**. Tonight's programme includes Hilary Belloc's new biography, A. N. Wilson, at the author's Sussex home, King's Land, talking about Belloc's work, religious beliefs and eccentricities; and an interview with V. S. Naipaul about his new book, *Findings* at the Centre.

9.00

**The Music of Gerard Kennedy**. Part two of a concert recorded at the Theatre Royal, Drury Lane.

9.40 **Snooker**. David Vine introduces action featuring Jimmy White and Dennis Taylor.

10.30

**Newsnight**. Will Hutton presents an assessment of the issues involved in the coal mining dispute.

11.15 **World Snooker**. The final visit of the day to Sheffield. Ends at 12.15.

CHANNEL 4

2.15 **Racing from Epsom**. Introduced by Brough Scott. Live coverage of four races - the Hyde Park Maiden Stakes (2.00); the Silver Wigg Memorial City and Suburban Handicap (2.30); the Esal Blue Riband Trial Stakes (3.05) and the Minors Handicap Stakes (3.35). The race commentator is Graham Goodie.

3.45

**Film: A-Hunting We Will Go** (1942) starring Laurel and Hardy. They agree to accompany a coffin to Ohio without realising it contains a live gorilla. Directed by Alfred Hitchcock.

5.00

**Countdown**. Yesterday's winner of the anagrams and mental arithmetic competition is challenged by Surrey politician, Graham Paxton.

5.30

**Kill or Starve?** presented by John Craven. Tonight's repeat programme asks whether or not we need all the 6,000 prescriptions that can be prescribed by the National Health Service and looks at the unnecessary drugs and at ways to cut down their number. One particular drug, the potassium acid salt, is used in conjunction with other drugs to combat high blood pressure, is examined (r).

6.15

**Old Country**. Jack Hargreaves with another report from deepest Harry country.

6.45 **Eye Good Looking?** The second programme in the series sees and Steve Porter looking at the nostalgia in modern advertising.

7.00

**Channel Four News** with Peter Sissons.

7.50

**Comment**. With his view on a subject of topical importance is John Burton, research fellow at the Institute of Economics Affairs.

8.00

**Brookside**. Bobby and Sheila deal with a problem. Barry's suspicious behaviour, especially as he is mixed up with Tony McArdle, while the Collins' are upset after Paul receives a telephone call from Dorothy Tate.

8.30

**It's Not Worth Weekly**. Consumer affairs programme. Among the items this week are reports on a holiday company that didn't deliver the advertised goods; on why salt is not good for you; and David Stafford tries on the Which? best suit.

9.00

**Film: Divorce Wars** (1982) starring Tom Bell. A media-televised drama about a successful lawyer who is forced to question his values and ethics when his own marriage begins to fall apart. Directed by Donald Wray.

10.50

**Black on Black** includes the first British television performance of reggae star Dennis Brown.

11.45 **Perfect Lives**. Part two to the seven act opera set in small-town middle America.

12.10

**Jan Breakers**'s Continuous

12.20 **Closedown**.

CHOICE

Illustrator Sidney Paget has made familiar (which is not all that vital), and captures the sleuth's eagle sharpness (which is). Mr Burke's Watson is not the pop-eyed bumbler that Nigel Bruce made him, but intelligent to be Holmes's Boswell. I don't see how the casting of Gayle Hunnicutt in the role of the adventuresome Irene Adler could have been improved upon. Next Tuesday: *The Dancing Men*.

THIS WOODEN O (BBC 1, 11.00 pm)

It is the nature of a progress report on one past season, it is nothing else, it proves that not all visionaries live with their heads in the air. Sam Wanamaker has his feet on the ground too. More than that he has dug his heels firmly into a particular place of ground, on the south bank of the Thames, where

Shakespeare's Globe theatre once stood. Realistic eyes see a rubbish dump there, with a power-station backdrop. Not Mr Wanamaker's eyes. He sees a renaissance Globe, open to the skies, as the original was. Tonight's film, a lively and entertaining affair, made by Bernard Clark, shows Mr Wanamaker equally at home trying to coax dollars out of rich Americans' pockets in a five-star New York hotel and looking homes with some vociferous Londoners who would invert Mr Wanamaker's list of priorities so that the Globe would be at the bottom and housing the homeless at the top.

Music highlights: another all-Beethoven night from the Royal Festival Hall (two piano concertos, one symphony) on Radio 3 at 7.30 and 8.50, and the start of a new Radio 2 series on great screen musicals (8.00pm)

Peter Davalle

Radio 4

6.00 **News Briefing**: Weather, 6.10 **Farming Week** from the South East. 6.30 **Shipping Forecast**. 6.45 **Prayer**, 7.00, 7.30, 7.55 **Weather**. 7.00, 7.30, 7.55 **Letters**. 7.25, 8.30 **Sport**. 7.45 **Thought for the Day**. 8.45 **Three Stories** by D H Lawrence (2) *Monkey House*, 9.57 **Weather**. 9.00 **News**. 9.05 **Tuesday Call**: 01-580 4411. 9.15 **News**. 9.20 **Book of the Week**: *Glenn Gould* by Ian Murray (10.00 **News**; *Enterprise* (Presbyterian Label Disc)). 10.30 **Morning Story**: "Once Around the World" by Bernard Edwards. Read by Howell Evans. 10.45 **David Servino**. 11.00 **Sunday Minute**. 11.15 **World News**: "Wild Horses" by Jon Beer. The setting is a small college of further education. With Richard Vernon (r). 11.30 **World**. 11.35 **News**. 11.40 **World**. 11.45 **News**. 11.50 **World**. 11.55 **World**. 12.00 **World**. 12.05 **World**. 12.10 **World**. 12.15 **World**. 12.20 **World**. 12.25 **World**. 12.30 **World**. 12.35 **World**. 12.40 **World**. 12.45 **World**. 12.50 **World**. 12.55 **World**. 1.00 **World**. 1.05 **World**. 1.10 **World**. 1.15 **World**. 1.20 **World**. 1.25 **World**. 1.30 **World**. 1.35 **World**. 1.40 **World**. 1.45 **World**. 1.50 **World**. 1.55 **World**. 2.00 **World**. 2.05 **World**. 2.10 **World**. 2.15 **World**. 2.20 **World**. 2.25 **World**. 2.30 **World**. 2.35 **World**. 2.40 **World**. 2.45 **World**. 2.50 **World**. 2.55 **World**. 3.00 **World**. 3.05 **World**. 3.10 **World**. 3.15 **World**. 3.20 **World**. 3.25 **World**. 3.30 **World**. 3.35 **World**. 3.40 **World**. 3.45 **World**. 3.50 **World**. 3.55 **World**. 4.00 **World**. 4.05 **World**. 4.10 **World**. 4.15 **World**. 4.20 **World**. 4.25 **World**. 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The plans, revealed to union officials at the beginning of this month, involve the reduction of the main Jobcentre network from 995 to about 350. The gap will be filled by about 350 "Jobshops" which would be self-service and offer no counseling or advice, and a further 500 small "Jobpoints", most of which would be located in supermarkets, banks, post offices and possibly private employment agencies.



enthusiasts and football supporters. But police with dogs escorted 200 young people to special trains ready to leave Southend. As returning holiday traffic crawled through and past the New Forest in Hampshire, the police appealed for more care after a forest fire spread over 100 acres from a point at Blissford near Fordingbridge.

Syria is anxious to secure at least a temporary period of stability in Lebanon, where it has been the main power-broker since American policy folded.

This is all very well, but Mr

LOW

HIGH

FRONT

FRONTS Warm Cold Occluded

(Symbols are an advancing wave)

**High tides**

	AM	HT	PM	HT
London Bridge	9.05	5.8	9.20	5.3
Albion	8.56	5.1	10.27	5.1
Ayrmouth	1.50	9.2	2.34	8.9

	Sun hrs	Rain in	Max °F	
Mfscombe	11.9	-	25	59 sunny
Tanby	10.8	-	16	59 sunny
Southport	12.1	-	20	68 sunny
Morcombe	13.3	-	15	68 sunny
Douglas	12.8	-	20	59 sunny
London (Cn)	11.4	-	18	64 sunny
Stam (Atp)	11.8	-	20	68 sunny
Bristol (Cn)	12.7	-	20	68 sunny
Cardiff (Cn)	12.1	-	18	68 sunny

[illegible]